**Pre-Service Module:** **Confirming Safe Environments**

**Section 2: Components and Tools of CSE & RSE**

**Section Learning Objectives**

By the end of Section 2: Components and Tools of CSE & RSE, child welfare professionals will be able to:

* Implement standards, steps, and time frames
* Integrate the use of Placement Danger Threats
* Identify sources of information to inform placement decisions
* Know what questions to ask that get at critical information for decision-making
* Differentiate the need for and strategies to do Risk Management Planning

**Section Themes and Key Points**

Below is a summary of the themes and key points covered in this section. This summary is intended to remind learners of the key learning points addressed and assist supervisors/ coaches in understanding what was covered in order for them to guide and support the application of learning for new child welfare professionals related to this section.

1. This section identifies the components of confirming and reconfirming safe environments, which vary depending on the placement setting. The following sources of information inform placement decisions:

* Background Checks – while state policy requires a background check, it is not prescriptive about what results would eliminate a potential unlicensed provider. This is an agency decision and requires professional judgment that considers how this information impacts a caregiver’s ability to provide safe care for a child.
* Placement Danger Threats – are severe in nature and indicate the unlicensed or foster care placement is an unsafe environment for the child. Placement Danger Threats are deal breakers.
* Risk Management Planning – is built to support the caregiver and placement in ensuring that each child is safe from other minor’s behaviors. Risk management plans may be required for one of two general reasons:
  + The child being placed may have behaviors that are dangerous to others
  + The behaviors of other minors may be dangerous to the youth being placed
* Environmental Evaluation (part of reconfirming safe environments) - happens after placement has occurred and addresses ways the placement caregiver can support the child and the goals.

Review the table on the next page for details about each of the components of confirming and reconfirming safe environments.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Unlicensed Home** | **Licensed Home** | **Group Home & Residential Care** |
| **Confirming Safe Environments** | | | |
| Background Checks   * CCAP * eWiSACWIS/CPS Records * Reverse Address Sex Offender Registry |  |  |  |
| Placement Danger Threats  17 Placement Danger Threats in the following specific areas:   * Presence of Violence * View of the Child * Ability to Partner with the Agency * Supervision and Protection * Concrete Physical Issues * Child’s Functioning * Caregiver Capacity |  |  |  |
| Risk Management Plan  Addresses the following behaviors:   * Aggressive * Sexually Abusive * Other behavior Issues |  |  |  |
| **Reconfirming Safe Environments** | | | |
| Background Checks   * CCAP * Reverse Address Sex Offender Registry |  |  |  |
| Placement Danger Threats  17 Placement Danger Threats in the following specific areas:   * Presence of Violence * View of the Child * Ability to Partner with the Agency * Supervision and Protection * Concrete Physical Issues * Child’s Functioning * Caregiver Capacity |  |  |  |
| Risk Management Plan  Addresses the following behaviors:   * Aggressive * Sexually Abusive * Other behavior Issues |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Environmental Evaluation  Evaluates:   * Caregiver ability to meet the needs of a child * Caregiver level of functioning * Provider’s ability to support permanence goal * Child level of need * Child and family adjustment to placement |  |  |  |

**On-the-Job Application Activities**

Listed in this section are optional transfer of training activities to support the learner in applying the knowledge acquired during the Confirming Safe Environments: Components and Tools of CSE & RSE Pre-Service Module to their CPS roles and responsibilities.

These two activities are optional and are provided only to aid the child welfare professional and supervisor/coach in supporting transfer of learning from pre-service to the agency. The child welfare professional, with input from their supervisor/coach, may choose to complete all, some, or none of these activities or substitute in other activities.

Each of the activities are described below, and a resource section to aid the post-activity supervisor/coach discussion with the child welfare professional follows the description of the first activity.

**Option 1: Risk Management Plans Activity**

Risk Management Plans are built to support the caregiver and placement in making sure that each child is safe from other minor’s behaviors.

* Discuss your agency’s protocol in developing Risk Management Plans with your supervisor or coach. Ask questions about:
  + Who is involved
  + The resources that could assist the out of-home care providers in establishing a Risk Management Plan

**Resource for Option 1: Risk Management Plans Activity**

This resource section is provided to aid the post-activity supervisor/coach discussion with their child welfare professional after completion of Option 1 related to the Risk Management Plans Activity.

Note that Risk Management Plans are about behaviors and interactions of and between children/youth, not caregivers. Concerns about the behaviors and actions of caregivers would require child welfare professionals to explore if there is a Placement Danger Threat.

**Option 2: Background Check Activity**

Background Checks are required on all individuals seventeen years of age and older residing in the identified placement home.

-The required background checks for CSE include: CCAP, eWiSACWIS and other CPS Records Checks, Reverse Address Sex Offender Registry

-The required background checks for RSE include: CCAP, Reverse Address Sex Offender Registry

* Discuss with your supervisor or coach how your agency conducts the required background checks. Ask about the process and protocol, along with which staff are involved with the checks.