



**CARE COALITION**  
**AT RISK CASE POLICY**

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# POLICY PURPOSE

- Increasing number of complex cases with the potential for at risk behaviors.
- Provides staff with support and guidance on at risk situations and cases.
- Help ensure individual safety.
- More effective case management.
- Avoid negligent practices.



# TYPES OF AT RISK CASES

- Suicidality
- Homicidality
- Domestic Violence
- Child Abuse or neglect.
- Disabled or Elderly abuse or neglect.
- Consult with Supervisor or Licensed Staff.



# IS THERE IMMINENT RISK?

- Threat made to seriously harm self or others.
- Presence of weapons.
- Substance abuse.
- Past history of high risk behavior.
- Consult with supervisor or licensed staff.
- Statement, plan and means.
- In hand or accessible.
- Under the influence of alcohol, illegal, or prescription drugs.
- Reports of previous behavior and capabilities.



# IS THERE IMMINENT RISK?

## No Imminent Risk.

- Develop safety plan to decrease risk level.
- Assess availability to local advocacy and resources.
- Assess ability to accurately know what the level of risk is.
- Assess ability to implement safety plan sufficiently.

## Yes Imminent Risk

- Contact Authorities: call 911 or local police number for Suicidality, homicidality or DV.
- Abuse/Neglect of child: 800-4achild.
- Disabled abuse/neglect: state level hotlines.
- Remain in contact until safety is established
- Consult with Licensed staff and supervisor.



# EXERCISE



# INTERVENTION

- Supportive listening & empathy.
- Reinforce importance of safety.
- Provide information about DV.
- Make referrals to local resources.
- National hotlines: 800-799-SAFE is the Nat'l DV hotline, 800-273-talk is VA hotline, 800-FYI-Call can assist with Safety planning. Each state has a hotline for Child and elder/disabled abuse.



# SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- If the perpetrator or victim are in the military, contact the military police and ask to have the incident reported to commander.
- Restricted vs. Non-restricted reporting.
- HIPPA
- Maintaining client relationships.





# DOCUMENT STEPS TAKEN

- At risk cases are often examined from a number of angles.
- Assessment
- Interventions
- Safety plan was developed/discussed/reviewed
- Referrals/resources provided



## FOLLOW - UP

- Follow –up is critical to determine if safety parameters remain in place.
- Referrals and resources were appropriate, effective and utilized.
- Assess for additional needs or issues.



# COMMON ERRORS AND FACTORS

- Minimizing the risk
- Lack of team ongoing assessment and communication.
- Always prepare.
- Planned vs. impulsive actions.
- Utilize colleagues and supervisors.

