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|  | INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SERVICES CHILD WELFARE MANUAL | |
| | Chapter 7: In-Home Services | Effective Date: June 1, 2011 |
| | Section 1: Child at Imminent Risk of Removal | Version: 3 |

POLICY

The Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) will make an initial determination as to whether an individual child is at imminent risk of placement and therefore a candidate for kinship care/foster care. DCS will redetermine imminent risk every 180 days.

DCS defines a child at imminent risk of placement as a child less than 18 years of age who reasonably may be expected to face out-of-home placement in the near future as a result of at least one (1) of the following:

1. Abuse or neglect;
2. Emotional or mental disturbance; or
3. Family conflict so extensive that reasonable control of the child is not exercised.

Code References

[42 USC 5101 67 § 106](#)

PROCEDURE

[REVISED] The Family Case Manager (FCM) will:

1. Make an initial determination that a child is at imminent risk for removal with a substantiation of abuse or neglect by the DCS as documented by an approved substantiated [Assessment of Alleged Child Abuse or Neglect SF 113/CW311](#) .

Note: The case type of Child In Need of Services (CHINS) 6 does not typically result in an Assessment unless there are allegations of abuse and/or neglect. The intake for a CHINS 6 is entered into ICWIS as a service request, which creates a CHINS case. If a CHINS 6 resulted from a service request, the initial documentation will be the opening a CHINS case.

CHINS:

- a. Complete a Risk reassessment in the Management Gateway for Indiana's Kids (MaGIK);
- b. Document in MaGIK that:
 - 1.) The child is at imminent risk of removal from the home environment and absent effective preservation services, the Department will petition the court to place the child in foster care; or
 - 2.) The child is not at imminent risk of removal from the home environment; or
 - 3.) The child is no longer at imminent risk of removal from the home environment due to the success of preservation services.

Informal Adjustment (IA) Cases:

- a. Initial determination of imminent risk for removal should be documented on the IA form in QUEST and again in MaGIK. The Family Case Manager (FCM) will document that:
 - 1.) The child is at imminent risk of removal from the home environment and absent effective preservation services, the Department will petition the court to place the child in foster care; or
 - 2.) The child is not at imminent risk of removal from the home environment; or
 - 3.) The child is no longer at imminent risk of removal from the home environment due to the success of preservation services.
2. Make a redetermination of imminent risk of removal. The redetermination will be completed on every child with an open case type of IA or In home CHINS within six (6) months of the initial determination. Redeterminations will be conducted as follows:

CHINS:

- a. Complete a Risk reassessment in MaGIK;
- b. Document in MaGIK that:
 - 1.) The child is at imminent risk of removal from the home environment and absent effective preservation services, the Department will petition the court to place the child in foster care; or
 - 2.) The child is not at imminent risk of removal from the home environment; or
 - 3.) The child is no longer at imminent risk of removal from the home environment due to the success of preservation services.

For IA Cases:

- a. Redeterminations of imminent risk of removal should be documented on the Progress on IA (formally the 5-month report) via the IA history screen. The Family Case Manager (FCM) will document that:
 - 1.) The child is at imminent risk of removal from the home environment and absent effective preservation services, the Department will petition the court to place the child in foster care; or
 - 2.) The child is not at imminent risk of removal from the home environment; or
 - 3.) The child is no longer at imminent risk of removal from the home environment due to the success of preservation services.

PRACTICE GUIDANCE

Definition:

Imminent Risk

Immediate threat of injury or harm to a child when no interventions have occurred to protect the child.

FORMS AND TOOLS

1. [Assessment of Alleged Child Abuse or Neglect SF 113/CW311](#)
2. Family Risk Assessment – Available in MaGIK
3. Family Risk Reassessment – Available in MaGIK
4. **[REVISED]** Program of Informal Adjustment – (IA-R3(091109)) – Available in QUEST
5. **[REVISED]** Progress Report on Program of Informal Adjustment - (SF 54336) – Available in MaGIK
6. Intake Officers Report of Preliminary Inquiry and Investigation – Available in MaGIK
7. Case Plan (SF2956/CW0046) – Available in MaGIK

RELATED INFORMATION

[REVISED] Outlining the population

Candidates for out-of-home placements/children at imminent risk for removal include:

1. Child residing in his/her own home;
2. Children on the run from their home or privately-paid facility; and
3. Children placed with the non-custodial parents who have NOT been removed from their home via a court order.
4. Child who is Homeless

Children at imminent risk for removal do not include:

1. Children in out-of-home placement care;
2. Children placed in licensed foster homes, unlicensed relative homes; and
3. Children on a trial home visit for the initial six (6) months, and/or children for whom an extension of the trial home visit has been granted by the court.