

Safety Management Provider Can and Will Protect the Child

The following are examples which should support the determination that a caregiver and any other informal or formal safety management provider can and will protect the child against danger threats. These examples reflect behaviors that the primary child welfare professional responsible should expect to observe in any individual being considered for a safety management service or who is being monitored as a provider in a safety plan.

- Caregiver/safety management provider has demonstrated the ability to protect the child in the past while under similar circumstances and family conditions.
- Caregiver/safety management provider has made appropriate arrangements which have been confirmed to assure that the child is not left alone with the maltreating person. This may include having another adult present within the home that is aware of the protective concerns and is able to protect the child.
- Caregiver/safety management provider can specifically articulate a plan to protect the child, such as the caregiver leaving with the child when a situation escalates, calling the police in the event a restraining order is violated, etc.
- Caregiver/safety management provider believes the child's report of maltreatment and is supportive of the child.
- Caregiver/safety management provider is physically able to intervene to protect the child.
- Caregiver/safety management provider does not have significant individual needs which might affect the safety of the child such as severe depression, lack of impulse control, medical needs, etc.
- Caregiver/safety management provider has asked, demanded, or expects the maltreating adult to leave the household and can assure the separation is maintained effectively.
- Caregiver/safety management provider has adequate resources necessary to meet the child's basic needs.
- Caregiver/safety management provider is capable of understanding the specific threat to the child and the need to protect.
- Caregiver/safety management provider has adequate knowledge and skill to fulfill caregiving responsibilities and tasks. This may involve considering the caregiver's ability to meet any exceptional needs that the child might have.
- Caregiver/safety management provider is cooperating with the caseworker's efforts to provide services and assess the specific needs of the family.
- Caregiver/safety management provider is emotionally able to carry out a plan and/or to intervene to protect the child (caregiver not incapacitated by fear of maltreating person).
- Caregiver/safety management provider displays concern for the child and the child's experience and is intent on emotionally protecting the child.
- Caregiver/safety management provider and child have a strong bond, and the caregiver is clear that the number one priority is the safety and well-being of the child.

- The caregiver/safety management provider consistently expresses belief that the maltreating person is in need of help, and he or she supports the maltreating person getting help. This is the caregiver's point of view without being prompted by the child welfare professional.
- While the caregiver/safety management provider may be having a difficult time believing the other person would maltreat the child, the caregiver describes the child as believable and trustworthy.
- Caregiver/safety management provider does not place responsibility on the child for the problems of the family.