Trauma Informed Removal Process

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Trauma Informed Removal Process

Trauma
Informed
Decision
Making for
Removal
Trauma Informed Decision Making Process

- Family Preservation Philosophy
- Physical Safety of Child
- Consideration of the Traumatic Impact to the Child
- Plan to Minimize Trauma to Child

= Removal
Anticipating child’s needs because they are predictable in a removal.
Trauma Informed Removal Process

- Trauma Informed Decision Making for Removal
- Trauma Informed Removal of Children
How do we explain to children the removal in a trauma informed way?
Prerequisites to TI Removal

- Don’t be fooled by how the child is presenting
- Don’t wait for the child to ask
  - OUR OWN: Recognition of the difference between pain and trauma
  - OUR OWN: Willingness to recognize my own helplessness in alleviating the pain, but can minimize trauma
  - OUR OWN: Willingness to be with the child’s pain
  - OUR OWN: Recognition and taking ownership that my decision created the child’s pain and trauma
Trauma Informed Steps with Child at Removal

- Identify what is happening and going to happen for the child
- Identify common feelings that children usually have
- Identify common thoughts that children usually have
- Explain your role in providing what you believe will be safe for a child
- Elicit questions from the child
- Ask what the child needs from their home that gives them comfort
- Ask the child what the he/she needs to feel safe
How do you respond to the child’s questions in a trauma informed way?

- Why can’t I stay with my parents?
- You can’t do this. I love my parents. How come you want to hurt me?
- What will happen if I do not go with you?
- How long will I be in foster care?
- When can I see my parents again?
- How come you are separating me from my siblings?
Trauma Informed Removal Process

- Trauma Informed Decision Making for Removal
- Trauma Informed Removal of Children
- Trauma Informed Placement into Foster Care
Key Processes in Transition

- Create Safety for child
- Psychoeducation to normalize
- Empower through predictability
- Relational continuity
- Invite and affirm expression of feelings
Transition to foster care

- What do we say to foster parents/kinship to create appropriate transition for the child?
- Be prepared to stay for awhile
- Ask the child in the presence of the foster parent what will help them feel safe.
- Ask about routines, especially for the rest of the evening and the next day to provide predictability
- Be willing to look around the house and the bedroom of the child to help in the transition
- Ask what the bedtime routine is
- Ask about special rules the family has
Trauma Informed Removal Process

Trauma Informed Decision Making for Removal

Trauma Informed Removal of Children

Trauma Informed Transition of Child to Foster Care Worker

Trauma Informed Placement into Foster Care
Worker Transition Challenges

- Why I don’t make contact?
  - Too busy
  - The quicker I pass the case on the faster I can attend to other things
  - Don’t want to disturb the child’s transition by making it worse by triggering them by my presence

- IN REALITY:
  - IS IT JUST TOO PAINFUL???????????
Reasons to see child

- Your presence brings an opportunity to process what has occurred.
- Your presence offers the child an opportunity to gain information and ask questions.
- During the removal crisis you provided safety and support that created increased relatedness and comfort.
- You are not abandoning the child like others have done in the past
- Confidence in the system professionals is built on having contact with the workers

IN REALITY:

YOU ARE THE LINK TO THEIR PARENTS!!!!!!!!!!