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Child Support Hotline: 800-840-8757

Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline: 800-800-5556

April 1st, 2021 Date:

MaGIK Users To:

From: Sarah Sailors, Deputy Director of Field Operations

Subject: Safe Assessment Closure Team (SafeACT)

DCS-21-05

The Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) in collaboration with the Change and Innovation Agency (C!A) held a series of Assessment Change Team meetings in March and April 2020. Planning for changes to DCS practice continues and many recommendations will be implemented through the process of transitioning to I-KIDS later this year. However, we are excited to announce the rollout of the Safe Assessment Closure Team (SafeACT), effective April 12th, 2021.

SafeACT has been developed to remove barriers for timely closure for specific assessments of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (CA/N). Family Case Managers (FCMs) who have completed their working test are eligible to call SafeACT upon completion of an assessment in which the FCM arrives at a decision of Safe for all children involved. Specially trained SafeACT Supervisors will be available from 8 AM to 4:15 PM (local time), Monday through Friday, to staff the assessment and assist with documentation to close the assessment immediately.

Upon a reaching a decision that all children involved in an assessment are safe, the assigned FCM should call the regional SafeACT number as soon as possible to staff the assessment with a SafeACT Supervisor.

The FCM remains responsible for all applicable assessment requirements outlined in the DCS Child Welfare Policy Manual, Chapter 4 - Assessment, which are not otherwise addressed in this letter. If an Assessment is approved through SafeACT, the FCM is not responsible for completing the 311.

The SafeACT Supervisor will staff the assessment with the FCM and:

- 1. Request additional information to be gathered, if needed, complete the 311, and close the assessment immediately; or
- 2. Refer the assessment back to the DCS local office if the SafeACT Supervisor does not agree with the decision to safely close the assessment.

Sincerely,

Sarah Sai Pers, MSW

Sarah Sailors, Deputy Director of Field Operations