

Caregiver Protective Capacity Factors

Protective Capacity is personal and caregiving qualities or characteristics (behavioral, cognitive and emotional) that contribute to the ability and willingness to provide for the protection and safety of the child.

Cognitive- specific intellectual, knowledge, understanding and perceptions that contribute to protective vigilance.

Parent/ caregiver:

1. Self-Aware
2. Recognizes the child's needs.
3. Understands his/her protective role.
4. Intellectually able/capable to protect.
5. Recognizes and understands threats to child safety.

Emotional- specific feelings, attitudes and identification with the child and motivation that result in parenting and protective vigilance.

Parent/ caregiver:

1. Has an emotional bond with the child.
2. Has positive attachment with the child.
3. Demonstrates and expresses love, sensitivity, and empathy for the child.
4. Demonstrates resiliency (ability to bounce back from illness, depression, adversity)
5. Caregiver is stable and able to intervene to protect the child.
6. Effectively meets own emotional need
7. Demonstrates emotional control
8. Tolerant as a caregiver

Behavioral- specific action, activity and performance that is consistent with and results in parenting and protective vigilance.

Parent/ caregiver:

1. Has physical capacity and energy.
2. Has the ability to set aside own needs in favor of the child or others.
3. Is adaptive.
4. Is assertive and responsive.
5. Takes action.
6. Demonstrates impulse control.
7. Has a history of being protective.
8. Is able to access and use resources to meet the needs of the child/family.