

Lasting Safety Tips Sheet

The Lasting Safety Scale is used to assess risk by gathering information from the family and those who know the family best. During each interview, the lasting safety scaling question should be asked in order to ascertain each person's perspective about how safe the children will be long-term. The information gathered from each person can be used by the practitioner and/or supervisor to make decisions about whether additional child welfare services are needed. The details of each person's rating should be transferred to the Assessment Map. The Assessment Map should be included in the referral paperwork that goes to the contracted provider. This will help the contracted provider easily understand what was learned during the assessment and enable them to use the scale to track progress toward lasting safety.

Lasting Safety (Risk Assessment)

Lasting Safety Scaling Question: On a scale of 0–10, where 10 is you're confident the kids will grow up safe and well enough without child protection involvement and 0 is you're very worried they will suffer serious harm at some point unless the family gets help, where would you rate it?



Some Factors that Increase Risk:

- Four or more children
 - Any child under 2 years
 - Alleged sexual abuse and offender is likely to have access
 - Pattern of past harm (chronic, severe, recent, frequent)
 - Previous opening for child protective services
 - Physical/mental/medical impairment of child
 - Housing is unsafe or inadequate
 - Lack of natural support network
- Caregiver:**
- Experienced abuse/neglect as a child
 - Provides emotionally/mentally/physically inadequate or damaging care
 - Has/had mental health issue
 - Abuses/abused substances
 - Experienced domestic violence in past 12 months
 - Is male, provides unsupervised care to child under 3 and is not the birth father

Ratings

Name	Role	Rating

Some Factors that Increase Safety:

- 3 or fewer children
 - All children over 2 years
 - Care is consistent with child's needs
 - Alleged sexual offender is prevented from having access
 - Pattern of safe, adequate and stable care
 - Child is physically, medically, mentally and emotionally on track for age/stage
 - Adequate/safe housing
 - Strong natural support network that knows about the worries
- Caregiver:**
- Experienced safety, stability and well-being as a child
 - Meets child's needs emotionally, mentally and physically
 - Mental stability
 - Free of substance abuse
 - Male who provides unsupervised care to child under 3 is birth parent