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**Name of Contact:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date/Time:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Type of Interaction:** HI (Home Interview); OI (Office Interview); SI (School Interview) \_\_\_\_\_ **PPS Worker:** \_\_\_\_\_

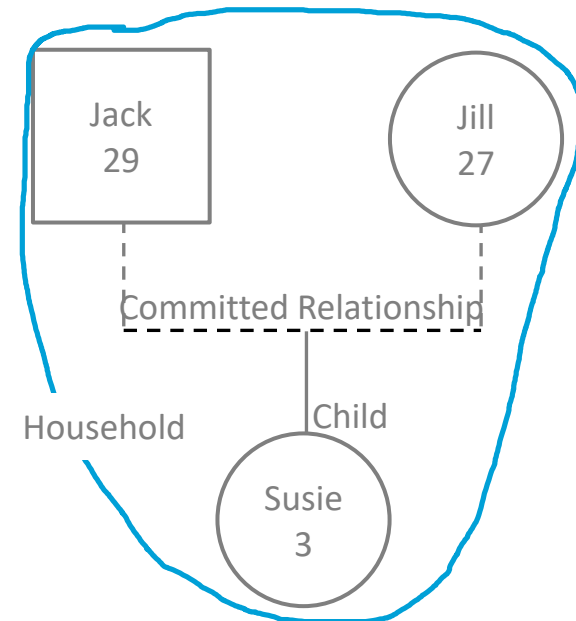
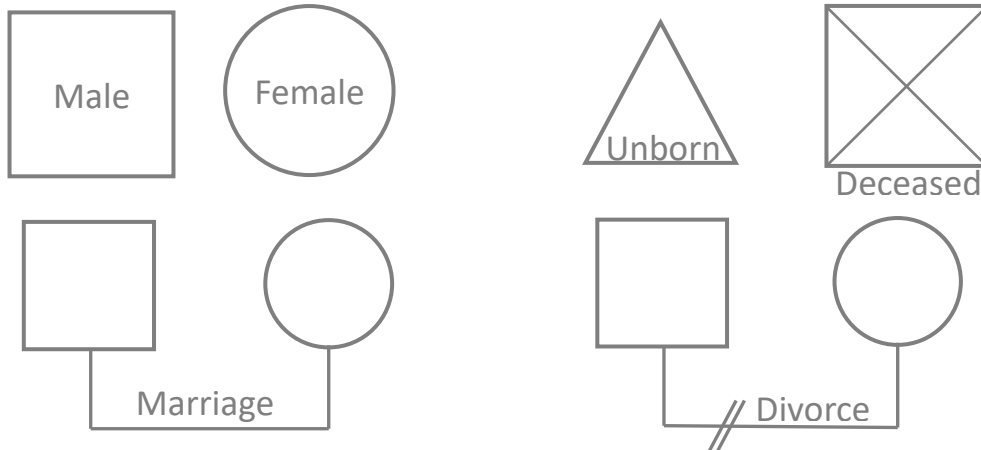
**GENOGRAM**

Use this space to capture information about the people in and around the family. Use the symbols and/or words that will make sense to you after the interview. You can always clean up and refine the genogram when you transfer this information to the PPS 2020 Assessment Map at the end of your assessment.

Questions you ask in your first contact can help set the stage for involving a Safety Network while building a deeper understanding of the family's Connections, Culture & Context:

- Of all the people in your family, with whom do you have the closest relationship?
- Besides you, who would your child say is her favorite family member?
- What values are most important to you? From whom did you learn those values?
- Who are the most important sources of support for you and your family?

**BASIC GENOGRAM SYMBOLS**



<https://www.genopro.com/genogram/>

[http://www.dcf.ks.gov/services/pps/documents/ppm\\_forms/appendices/appendix\\_3b.pdf](http://www.dcf.ks.gov/services/pps/documents/ppm_forms/appendices/appendix_3b.pdf)

# Kansas DCF Conversation Note

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## **INFORMATION PROVIDED BY WORKER**

*Describe information provided to the person(s) you're interviewing. This could include your identity & purpose for your visit, informational pamphlets provided, explanation of their right to refuse and possible consequences, etc.*

## **GENERAL NOTES**

*Use this space to capture information that you are unable to categorize in the three columns.*

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<b>What are we worried about?</b>	<b>What's working well?</b>	<b>What needs to happen?</b>
<p><i>FOCUS ON CHILD IMPACT</i> <i>Physical &amp; Emotional; Short &amp; Long-Term</i></p>		
<p><b>CURRENT &amp; PAST HARM</b> <i>Past tense questions about</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>What happened</i></li> <li>• <i>Negative Impact on the child(ren)</i></li> </ul> <p><u><i>Details of alleged incident:</i></u> <i>Ask about and record details that indicate the alleged maltreatment occurred.</i></p> <p><u><i>Observations:</i></u> <i>Observations that make you more worried should be addressed, ideally through questions, and recorded in this column with the response.</i></p> <p><b>FUTURE DANGER</b> <i>Future tense questions about</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Who's worried</i></li> <li>• <i>What they are worried might happen</i></li> <li>• <i>Possible negative Impact on the child(ren)</i></li> </ul> <p><b>COMPLICATING FACTORS</b> <i>Conditions and circumstances that may make the process of building safety more challenging</i></p>	<p><b>CURRENT &amp; PAST SAFETY</b> <i>Present &amp; Past tense questions about</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>What happened</i></li> <li>• <i>Positive Impact on the child(ren)</i></li> </ul> <p><u><i>Details of alleged incident:</i></u> <i>Ask about and record details that indicate the alleged maltreatment did NOT occur.</i></p> <p><u><i>Observations:</i></u> <i>Observations that reassure you should be shared, ideally as a segue into a question, and recorded in this column with the response.</i></p> <p><b>FAMILY RESOURCES</b> <i>Conditions, circumstances, and people that may be helpful in the process of building safety</i></p>	<p><b>SAFETY GOAL</b> <i>Future tense questions about</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>What would need to be different for the child(ren)</i></li> <li>• <i>Anticipated positive Impact on the child(ren)</i></li> </ul> <p><b>NEXT STEPS</b> <i>Agreed upon action steps that will be taken after the conversation</i></p>

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## SAMPLE QUESTIONS

What are we worried about?	What's working well?	What needs to happen?
<p><b>CURRENT &amp; PAST HARM</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is your understanding of the reported concerns that caused the agency to become involved with your family?</li> <li>• What happened that lead up to the police showing up at your house?</li> <li>• What's your memory of what happened to cause DCF to become concerned about the kids?</li> <li>• What words would you use to describe what happened?</li> <li>• Where were the kids when the concerning incident happened?</li> <li>• What did you see in the kids that caused you to be concerned?</li> <li>• What were the first things you saw in the child that told you something was not right?</li> <li>• Who else was there when the fight happened?</li> <li>• What was it that pushed you to the point of losing your temper with him?</li> <li>• At what point did you know you needed to call the police for help?</li> <li>• If a video had been recording the situation and we were watching it back right now, what exactly would we be seeing? Hearing?</li> <li>• What happened next?</li> </ul>	<p><b>CURRENT &amp; PAST SAFETY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the most helpful things that have happened so that you could keep your kids even a little bit safer when situations like this have come up in the past?</li> <li>• What was the most recent time you were frustrated enough with your kids to lose your temper, but you managed to keep things under control?</li> <li>• Even in the midst of this crisis, what were you able to do to keep the kids safe?</li> <li>• Who are the people in your life who have stepped in to help with the kids when you have been struggling with depression in the past?</li> <li>• What would the kids say they saw you doing to make things better for them?</li> <li>• When you are at your best as a parent, what are you able to do better for the kids?</li> <li>• What has happened that gives you hope that things can go better in the future?</li> <li>• When did that happen?</li> <li>• Who was there to support you?</li> <li>• Where were you living at that time when things were going so well for your family?</li> <li>• How were you able to do that so well?</li> </ul>	<p><b>FUTURE SAFETY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We've talked about your worst fears for your children if things don't change. What are your best hopes about what you would want for them instead?</li> <li>• What do you most want for your kids going forward?</li> <li>• What are your best hopes for the way discipline will be handled with the kids in the future?</li> <li>• What are your best hopes about the impact your discipline would have on your kids?</li> <li>• What are your best hopes for your relationship with your children?</li> <li>• If a miracle happened tonight and, in the morning when you woke up, all the problems that lead to child protection's involvement with your family were resolved, what would be happening that would tell you the problems were solved?</li> <li>• What are your best hopes about how things would be different for your kids in the future when problems like this come up?</li> <li>• What do you think the agency would need to see to know that the worries were resolved?</li> </ul>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What do you think has been the worst of all of this for the kids?</li> <li>• What would the kids say was the worst of that for them?</li> <li>• On a scale of 0-10, where 10 is this has had virtually no effect on the kids at all and 0 is this has been the most difficult thing the kids have had to go through, where do you think they would rate it?</li> <li>• What else has happened to cause people to be worried for the kids?</li> <li>• What other similar things have happened in the past that add to the worry for the kids?</li> <li>• What else has happened to make the agency worried about the kids?</li> </ul> <p><b>FUTURE DANGER</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are you most worried about for the kids if things like this continue to happen?</li> <li>• What are your worst fears about what could happen in your relationship with the kids if things don't change?</li> <li>• What do you think your kids are most worried will happen if something like this occurs again?</li> <li>• If the reported incident had happened and even became a pattern in your family, what would you be most worried about for the kids as they grow up?</li> <li>• What do you think others are most worried could happen to the kids?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How did you decide it was time to take that sort of action?</li> <li>• What would the kids say they liked about how you handled that situation?</li> <li>• What would the kids say were the best things you did?</li> <li>• Who else saw you managing your frustration so well?</li> <li>• What else did mom or dad do to protect the kids during that situation?</li> <li>• What reminded them to do that?</li> <li>• When has that good thing happened?</li> <li>• How often have you been able to resolve your differences in calm ways?</li> <li>• How can you tell it's better for the kids when you handled things that way?</li> <li>• Of all the things you've done to try to address the problem so far, what would the kids say made the most difference for them?</li> <li>• What would the kids say they have appreciated most about your efforts to protect them from...?</li> <li>• What have you learned about yourself as a parent as a result of being able to handle things so well?</li> <li>• What do you think the kids learned from watching you and their dad work out your differences so calmly that time?</li> <li>• What positive messages do you think your kids have taken from the way you've managed when things have gone better?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What do you think the judge will need to see to know it is okay to return the children to your care?</li> <li>• What would the children's father say he most needs to see happening for the kids so he would know they are okay when they are with you?</li> <li>• What do you think the worker would need to see you doing differently that would tell her it was okay to close your family's protection case?</li> <li>• What would the judge need to see you doing?</li> <li>• What would he need to hear about the kids to know things were better?</li> <li>• Who else would need to know things had changed?</li> <li>• Who else wants these same things for your kids?</li> <li>• How long do you think it will take you to make the changes you're describing?</li> <li>• Who else do you think will need to be convinced the kids are safe enough?</li> <li>• If you could be exactly the parent your kids need, what would you actually be doing differently?</li> <li>• If your best hopes were happening, what would it look like?</li> <li>• What would you notice was different about the kids?</li> <li>• What sort of care would you need to see your children getting to know that they would be okay even if you were struggling?</li> </ul>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who else shares your worries for the future?</li> <li>• What do you think is the worst thing that could happen based on how things have gone in the past?</li> <li>• What do you think you would see in the kids that would tell you things had gotten that bad?</li> <li>• How do you think the kids might be affected if your worst fears came true?</li> <li>• What do you think would be the worst of that for the kids if it did happen?</li> <li>• What are your worst fears about what your kids would learn if they continue to see their parents have fights like this?</li> <li>• What are you most afraid it would mean about you as a parent if your kids had to experience something like that?</li> <li>• On a scale of 0-10, where 10 is that it would have no effect on the kids if something like that happened and 0 is that the kids would be completely devastated if that happened, where would you rate it?</li> <li>• What other worries do you have for the children if things stay as they are?</li> <li>• What else would the kids say they are worried could happen to them?</li> <li>• What else do you think the agency is worried might happen to the kids if things continue on the path they are on?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On a scale of 0-10, where 10 is that the things you've done to protect the kids have been enough to keep them from experiencing any negative effects and 0 is that nothing you've done has made any difference for the kids, where would you rate it? What brings your number up that far?</li> <li>• What other strengths does he/she possess as a parent that have helped him/her keep the kids safe?</li> <li>• When is another time you have been able to stay calm while dealing with difficult behaviors from your kids?</li> <li>• Who else has helped you care for your kids when you have been struggling with your depression/addiction?</li> <li>• What else are you able to do better for your kids when you are at your best as a parent?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What difference do you think it would make for the kids if they were able to get that kind of care all the time?</li> <li>• What do you think it would do for the kids to grow up in a home where they regularly see their parents working out their differences in calm ways?</li> <li>• What would it mean about you as a parent if you were able to achieve these goals?</li> <li>• What do you think it would mean to your kids if you were able to be the mom you've described wanting to be for them?</li> <li>• On a scale of 0-10, where 10 is the goal we've discussed is exactly what you want in your heart for your children and 0 is that the goal we've discussed only describes what the agency wants for your kids and doesn't capture at all what you want for them, where would you rate it?</li> <li>• What other best hopes do you have for your kids?</li> <li>• What else do you think would need to be happening to convince everyone that it was okay for the kids to return home?</li> </ul>
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**Immediate Safety**

(Safety Assessment)

**Immediate Safety Scaling Question:** On a scale of 0–10 where 10 is, you’re confident the child(ren) will be safe enough staying where they are while the assessment is completed and 0 is the child(ren) are likely to be seriously hurt if they stay where they are even for tonight, where would you rate it?



**Immediate Safety Ratings:** Record the names, roles and ratings of each person interviewed. Consider sharing and recording your rating as well. The Immediate Safety Scale can be used as a foundation for a conversation about the safety and TDM decisions. Refer to the Immediate Safety Tip Sheet for additional guidance.

Name	Role	Rating

**Reasons for Ratings:**

*Key Questions to consider related to Immediate Safety/Danger:*

- *What are the most immediate threats to the child’s safety?*
- *What is in place that’s keeping the children safe tonight (and over the next fews days)?*

*Record the name of each person who rated safety during this conversation and provide a brief list of the key factors that made them rate it the way they did.*

**TDM Referral.** Discuss and enter your TDM decision if applicable.

- Yes; confirm with supervisor
- Maybe; consult with supervisor
- No

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**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 be seriously harmed at some point unless their family gets help, where would you rate it?



**0 is...** You can use this space to create a family-specific definition of 0

Sample questions...

What do you think is the worst thing that could happen based on how things have gone in the past?

What would the kids say are their worst fears about what could happen to them?

**Lasting Safety Ratings**

Record the names, roles and ratings of each person interviewed. Consider sharing and recording your rating as well. The Lasting Safety Scale can be used as a foundation for a conversation about the need for ongoing Child Welfare services. Refer to the Lasting Safety Tip Sheet for additional guidance.

Name	Role	Rating

**10 is...** You can use this space to create a family-specific definition of 10

Sample questions...

What are your best hopes about how things would be different for your kids in the future when problems like this come up?

What difference do you think it would make in your kids lives as they grow up if your best hopes became a reality?

**Reasons for Ratings:**

Key Questions to consider related to Lasting Safety/Risk:

- What gives you confidence that the kids will be safe in the future?
- Even if you're sure the kids are safe today, what keeps you worried for their long-term safety and well-being?

Record the name of each person who rated lasting safety during this conversation and provide a brief list of the key factors that made them rate it the way they did. Transfer the ratings and reasons to the PPS 2020 Assessment Map at the conclusion of your assessment.