

Action Agreements

Background Notes

The Action Agreement is a written, signed statement developed jointly by DHS and the parents(s)/legal guardians. If the child is enrolled or eligible for enrollment in a Tribe, the Tribe must also be consulted regarding the development of the agreement. There can be several Action Agreements throughout the life of a case. These agreements outline expected activities which address the changes that need to take place for the child(ren) to return and remain safely in the home. The agreement outlines the steps that the parents will take in order to ensure safety, permanency and well being for their child as well as the steps the agency will take.

Tasks / Assignments:

- Review [Developing and Manage the Case Plan](#) to determine the elements of an Action Agreement and the components of a Protective Capacity Assessment?
- Ask your Supervisor for an example of a well-developed Action Agreement.
- Shadow a co-worker who is meeting with a family to conduct a protective capacity assessment and develop an Action Agreement. Were the safety threats to the child clearly explained as well as how the parents need to demonstrate change? Were the parents' strengths and protective capacities taken into consideration when writing the agreement? Was there a time frame on the agreement? What did the caseworker agree that DHS would provide for the child and the parent?

Reference:

http://www.dhs.state.or.us/policy/childwelfare/manual_1/division_40.pdf

Discoveries:

- *What are the benefits of developing an Action Agreement with a parent?*
- *What skills did the caseworker use to engage the client in the process of developing the agreement?*