

# SENSE

Substance

Exposed

Newborn

Safe

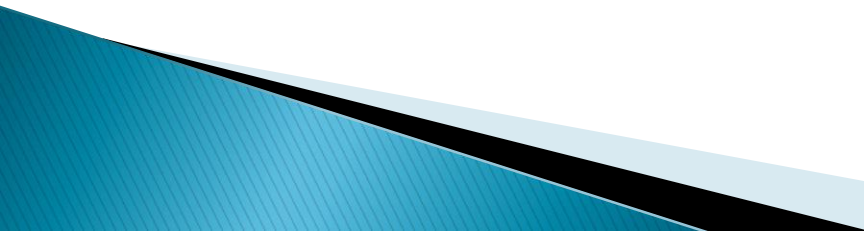
Environment



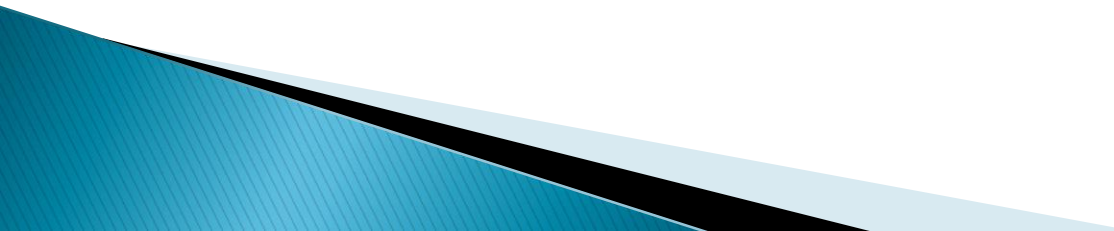


When there is evidence of prenatal substance/alcohol abuse the likelihood of abuse or neglect towards children increases.

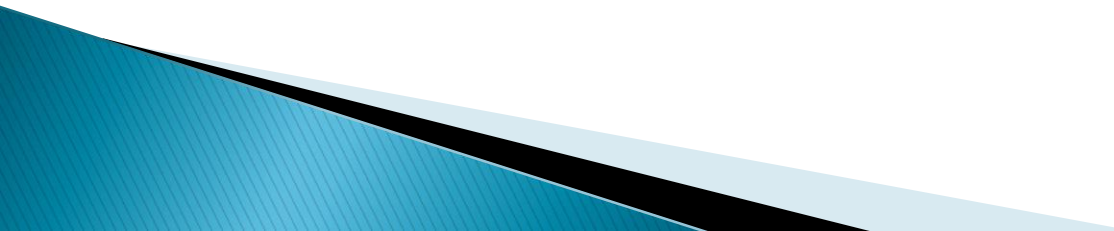
# How a SENSE case begins.....

- ▶ Mandated reporters including OB/GYN staff, hospitals, midwives and relatives with concerns report prenatal substance abuse
  - ▶ Once the newborn and/or parent test positive, the parent reports drug use or a positive drug test during prenatal visits results in a report generated at the DCS hotline.
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# Legislative Changes

- ▶ In 2009 the Arizona Legislature made it possible for DCS to substantiate reports of substance exposure in newborn.
  - ▶ Prior to 2009, DCS workers were unable to substantiate reports of substance exposed newborns unless a medical statement indicated how in utero exposure would impact the child throughout his/her life.
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# A.R.S. 13-3620

- ▶ A.R.S.13-3620e the requirement that health care professionals report substance exposure in infants to DCS.
  - ▶ A.R.S.13-3401 lists 150+ possible substances.
  - ▶ From July 2014-May 2015, the Child Abuse Hotline received 3,294 reports of substance exposed infants
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# NEGLECT:

## DCS Documentation

- ▶ DCS Investigations must gather medical records regarding the health professional's determination and supporting documents
  - Toxicology or other lab reports
  - Prescriptions– including type of medication, when the parent was taking the medication
  - Mother's admission of use

# NEGLECT: **Substantiation**

- ▶ DCS workers may now propose to substantiate **NEGLECT** when a health professional makes a determination that a newborn is prenatally exposed to a drug or substance listed in A.R.S. § 13-3401

\*\*\*This does **NOT** include prenatal alcohol exposure

# NEGLECT: FAS/FAE

- ▶ Diagnosis of FAS or FAE of an infant <1 year old
- ▶ Diagnosis made by the health professional stating that the infant's clinical findings are consistent with FAS or FAE



HOSPITAL

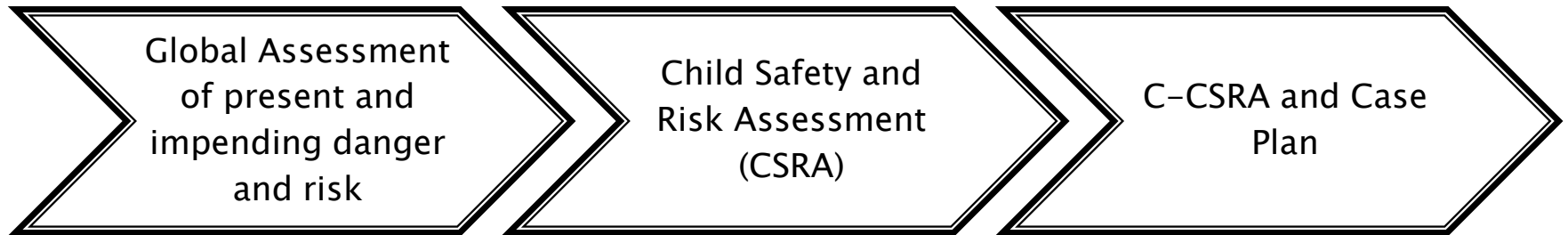


HOTLINE



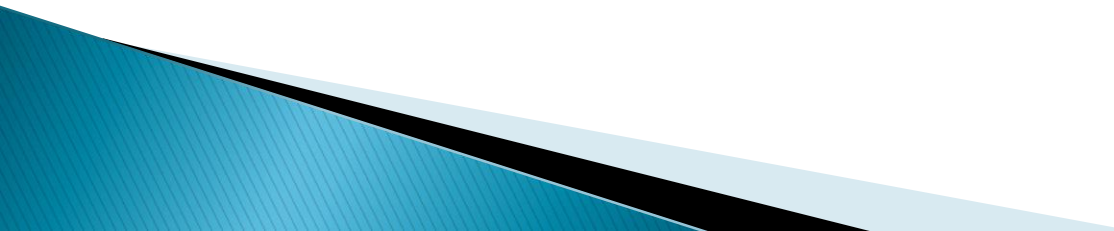
DCS INVESTIGATIONS

# Initial Assessment Tools

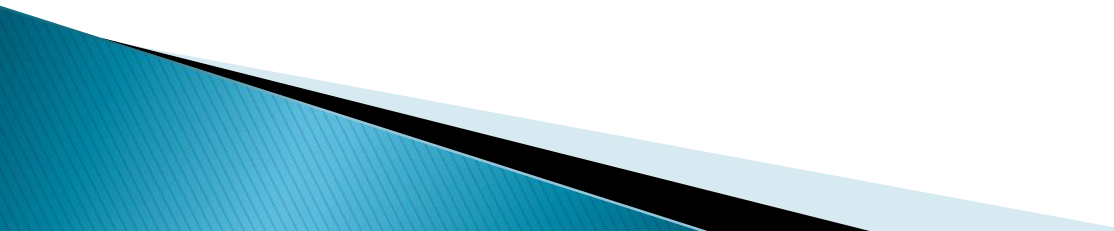


1. Extent of maltreatment
2. Circumstances surrounding maltreatment and prior history
3. Interviews, observations of home and records

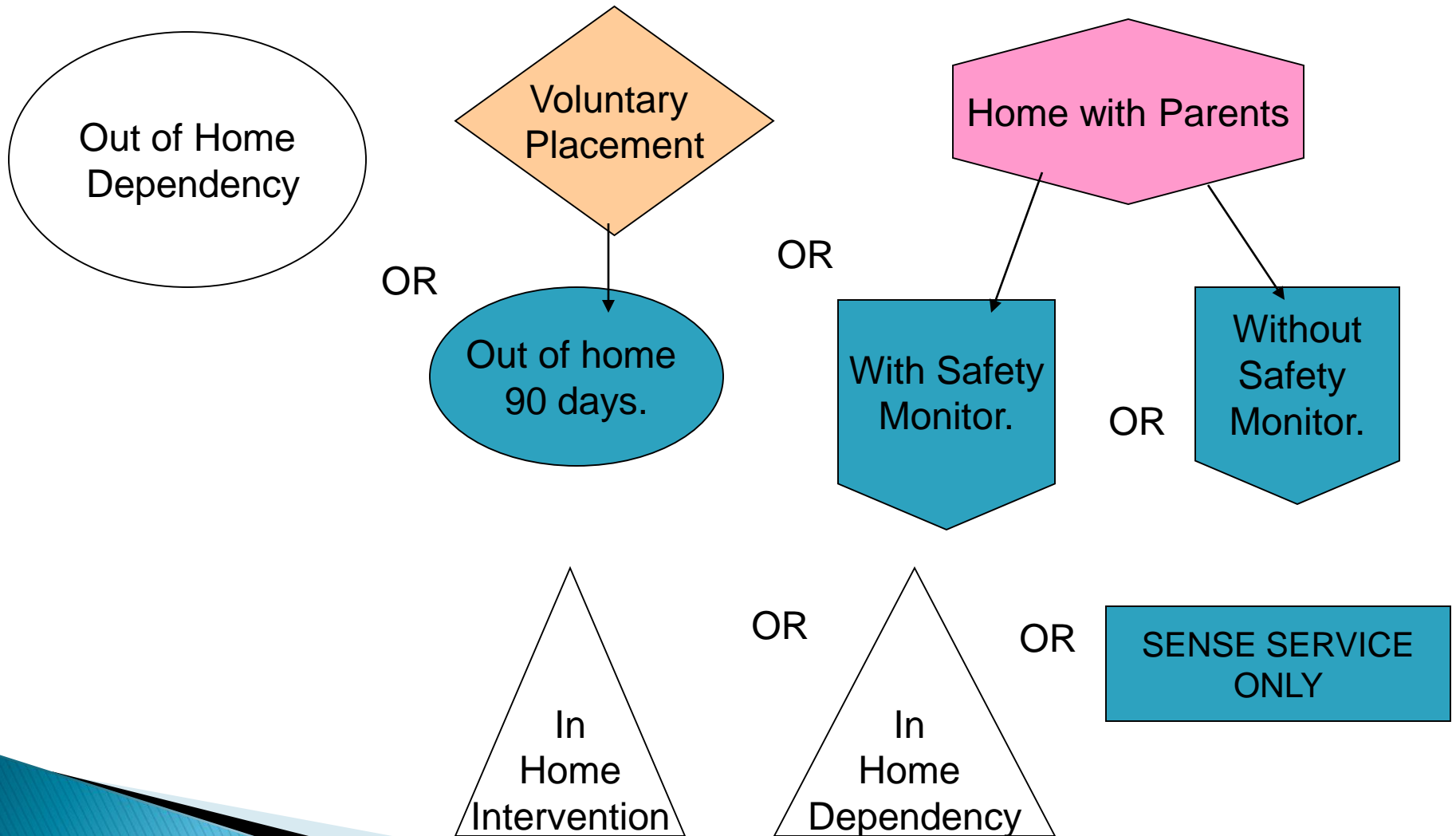
# Child Safety and Risk Assessment

- ▶ Identification and analysis of safety threats
  - ▶ Leads to Safety Decision—Safe or Unsafe
    - If unsafe, a safety plan must be developed with a safety monitor in home or a removal (out of home safety plan)
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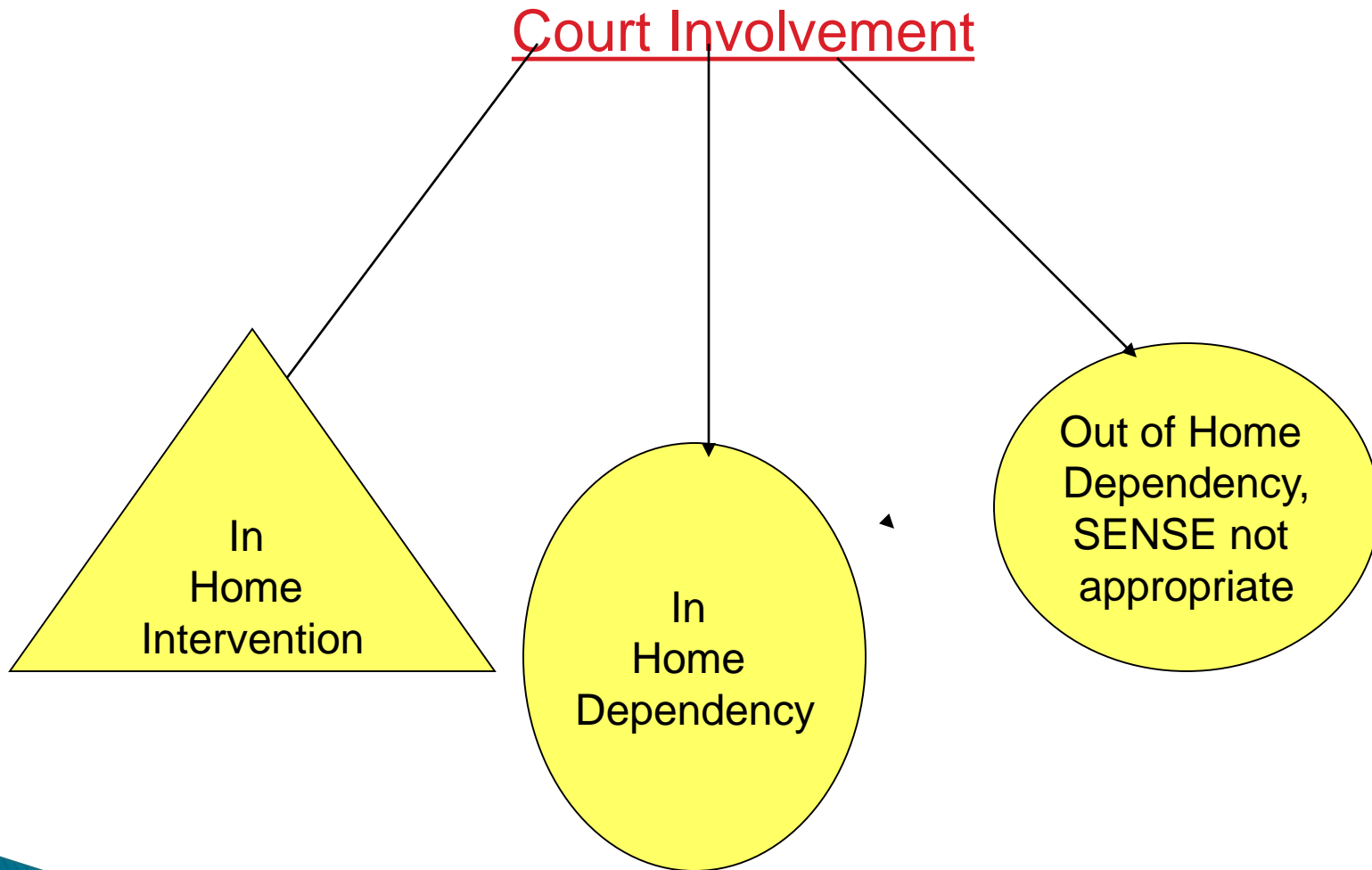
# Decision Making in Investigations

- ▶ Is the child/ren safe? The first priority is to ensure safety and keep families together whenever possible.
  - ▶ Substantiate/unsubstantiate allegation
  - ▶ Based on assessments, what services are needed and could the family benefit from?
  - ▶ What type of intervention is warranted?
  - ▶ Is court oversight needed?
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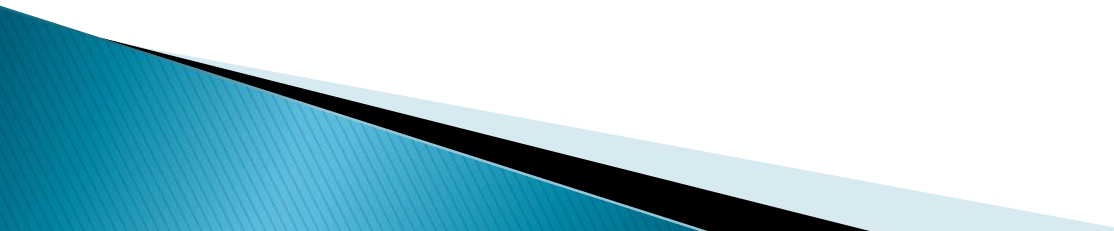
# Options when a family needs DCS intervention



# TDM outcome may indicate the need for Court Involvement



# Best for Babies /Cradle to Crayons

- ▶ If it is determined court involvement is needed to obtain behavioral changes in the family, the dependency petition is filed with the Juvenile court. The case may be assigned to one of the Cradle to Crayons /Best for Babies Judges.
  - ▶ A rapid response assessment should be completed for all children involved in a dependency
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In Home case manager makes service referrals



Families FIRST

Recovery Coaches

Family Preservation Programs includes a visiting nurse

JFCS

SWHD

HRT/PSP

TASC

Healthy Families where available



- ▶ With SENSE cases

communication is the Key.

The parents sign a Release of Information to ALL involved providers so all providers can communicate with each other and the family.

Families FIRST  
Completes intake  
and reports results

Family Preservation  
Team engages family  
in behavioral changes

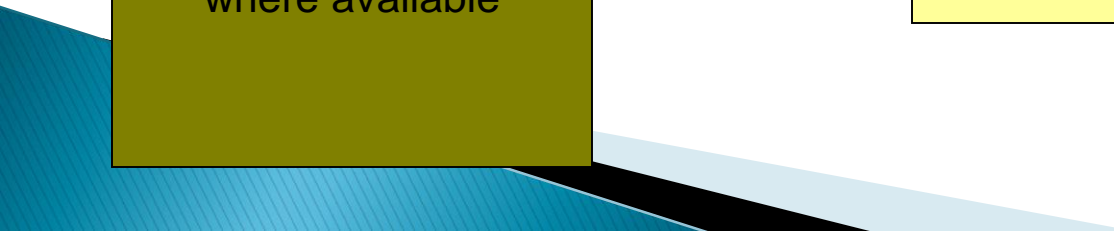
FAMILY

In-Home case  
manager  
conducts  
weekly home  
visit .

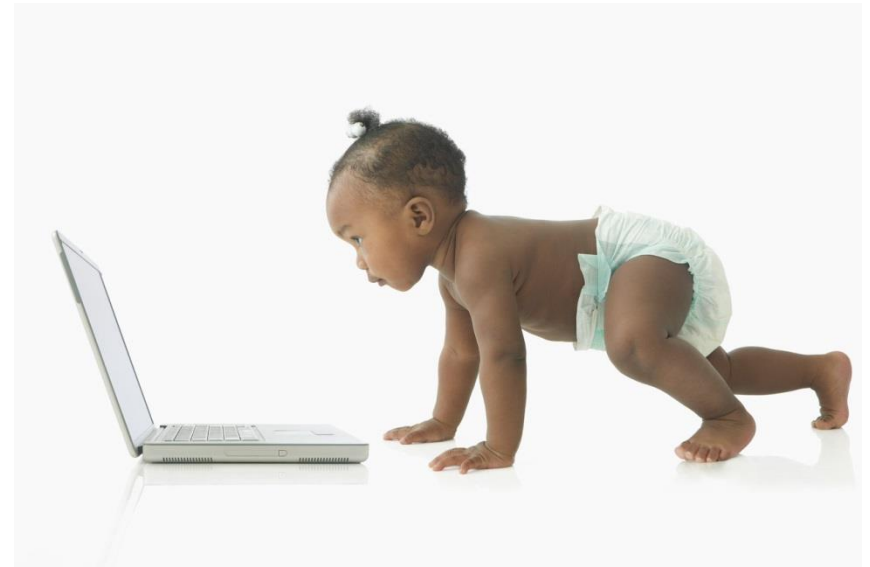
Healthy Families for  
Infant assessment &  
Long Term Services  
where available

TASC

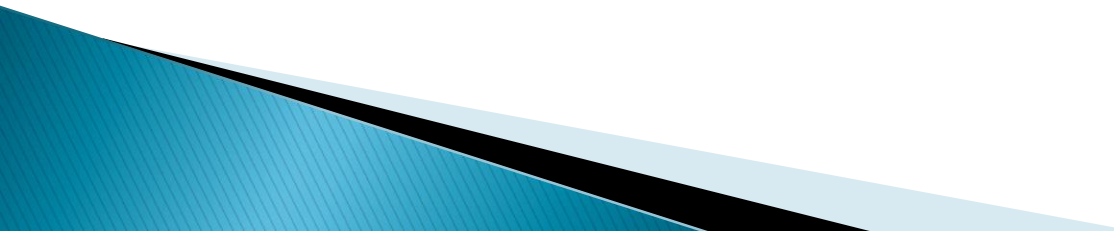
Court



- ▶ The earlier in a case we communicate, the better the outcome for the family...and the infant.



# Role of Families F.I.R.S.T.

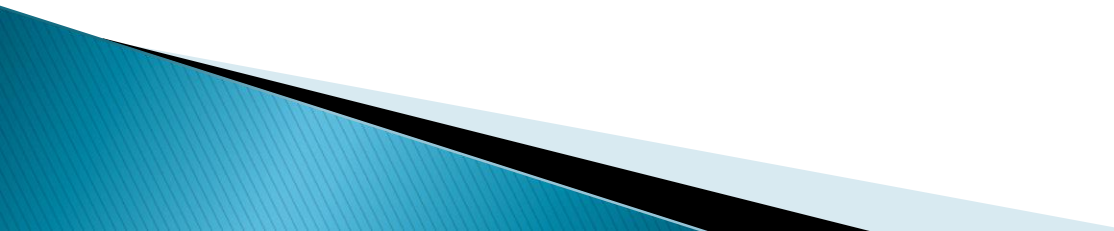
- ▶ Complete a substance abuse assessment to determine the level of treatment
  - ▶ Notify client of Families First treatment recommendations and set appointments
  - ▶ Notify team members of the assessment results and treatment recommendations
  - ▶ Communicate with team client's progress or relapses.
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# Role of FPPT Team

- ▶ Make contact with client within 12 hours
- ▶ Assist in coordinated case plan development with family and all team members.
- ▶ Ensures infant is assessed by pediatric nurse within 30 days of case assignment
- ▶ Make the referral to Healthy Families/Home visitor program
- ▶ Set up email for all team members. Set up 10, 45 and 90 day staffings with family and all providers

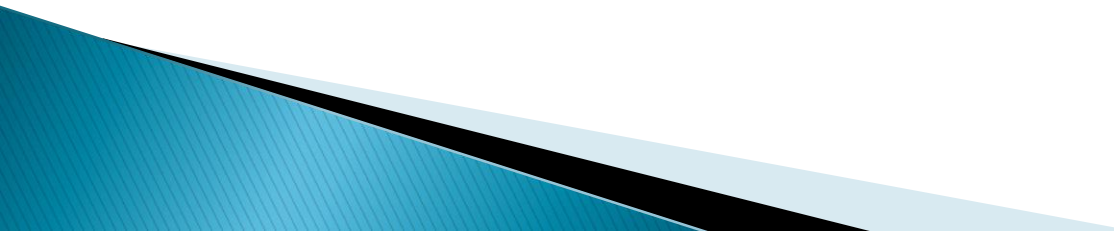
# Mid-Point

[around 6-8 weeks]

- ▶ Mid-point meeting will be held with family in their home and all team providers in 6-8 weeks to discuss behavioral changes made, barriers to goals and progress of the family
  - ▶ Comprehensive case plan will be reviewed by all parties.
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# Closure Staffing

[12–16 weeks]

- ▶ Closure staffing will be held with family and all team members.
  - ▶ Development or review of after-care plan with family.
  - ▶ Family Preservation services conclude at this time.
  - ▶ Healthy Families and Families First may continue services.
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# In the End

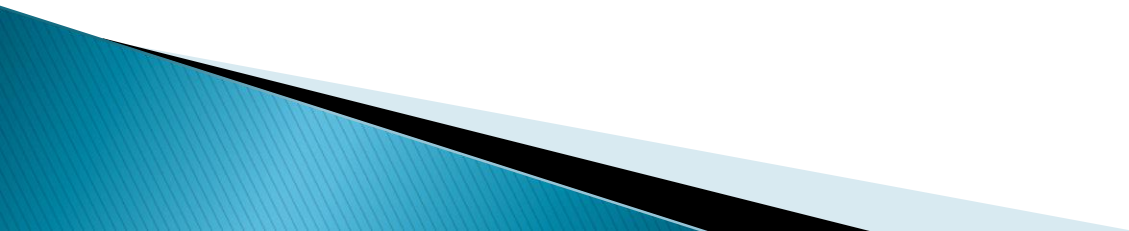
DCS In Home case manager will continue contact with TERROS and Healthy Families as long as DCS case is open.

DCS will monitor the family until the DCS case is closed.

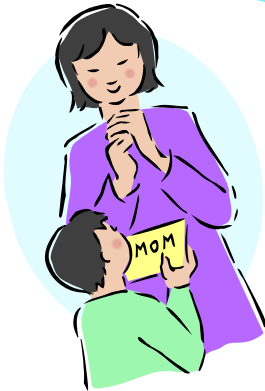
Closure of DCS case does not mean Families First or Healthy Families services to family end.



- ▶ When all members of the SENSE team communicate with one another, it looks like this:



Safe Children, Healthy Families



Without coordination and communication we can not support parents and children effectively.

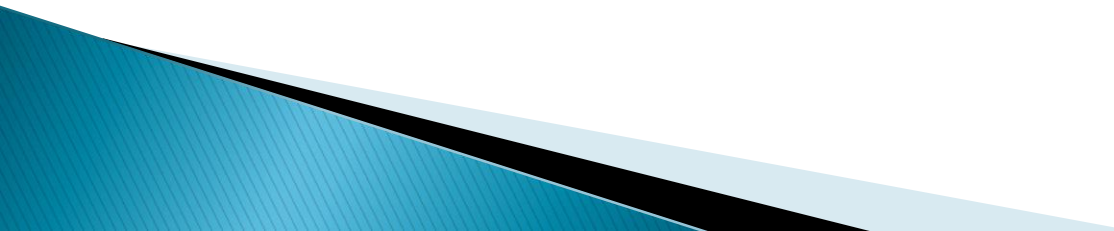


# Working Together

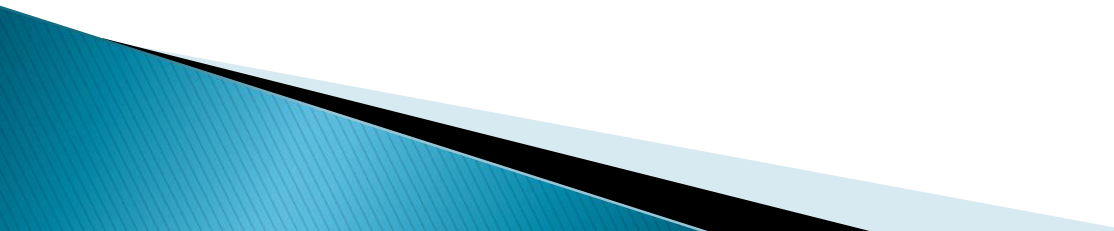
- ▶ We can make a difference...

...that's what makes SENSE.

# FPPT/Intensive In Home Services Outcomes

- ▶ In SFY 2014
  - ▶ 97.6% families did not have any new substantiated reports during service delivery
  - ▶ 99.4% of families successfully completing services did not have a new substantiated report 6 months after service delivery
  - ▶ 94.9% of families successfully completing services did not have a child in DCS custody within 6 months of case closure
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# FPPT/Intensive In Home Services Outcomes

- ▶ SFY 2014– 95.5% of families report on satisfaction surveys being satisfied with the family preservation services
  - ▶ “I have grown to think of my SENSE team like family. I have really learned a lot in the past 4 months.”
  - ▶ “We really appreciate all your time and effort. Leonardo loves the toys.”
  - ▶ “I just wanted to thank you for everything and let you know how much this experience has benefitted my family.”
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Thank you  
for your time  
and your  
commitment  
to Arizona's  
Children.



**QUESTIONS?**