Focusing on the Needs of Children

Principles of Human Services

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What are the needs of children?
Basic Needs of Children

• Intellectual
• Emotional
• Physical
• Social
Responsibilities of Caregivers

• Meet nutritional and educational needs
• Provide a safe, nurturing environment
• Well-trained in first aid and CPR

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Developmentally Appropriate Guidance Techniques

A child’s environment should be:

• Comfortable
• Safe
• Secure
• Stable

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Promoting Positive Behavior

Positive behaviors include:
• Encouraging initiative
• Getting along with others
• Pro-social skills
• Self-control
• Setting appropriate limits

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What is child abuse?
Child Abuse and Neglect

Last year:

- 231 Texas children died because of abuse or neglect at the hands of their parents or guardians
- 65,948 children were confirmed victims of abuse or neglect

Source: Helpandhope.org
National Child Abuse Statistics

Estimated child fatalities per day attributed to child maltreatment

Note: National data is likely to underestimate the number of children who died from maltreatment.

Source: Childhelp.org
Child Maltreatment

Includes:

• Emotional abuse
• Neglect / Abandonment
• Physical abuse
• Sexual abuse
Factors Affecting Child Abuse

• The child’s age and developmental status when the abuse or neglect occurred
• The frequency, duration and severity of abuse
• The relationship between the victim and his or her abuser
• The type of abuse (emotional, physical, sexual or abandonment)
Emotional Abuse

May include:

• Constant criticism
• Threats
• Rejection
• Withholding love, support or guidance
A child is considered to be abandoned when the:

• child has been left alone in circumstances where the child suffers serious harm

• parent has failed to maintain contact with the child or provide reasonable support for a specified period of time

• parent’s identity or whereabouts are unknown
Physical Abuse

Physical abuse: The physical injury of one person by another through such behavior as hitting, kicking, biting or throwing objects
The Kelsey Briggs Story.
(True Story Original)
(click on link)
Sexual Abuse

Sexual abuse: A form of abuse in which one person forces another to engage in sexual activities.
Sexual Abuse

Five Steps to Protect Our Children

Step 1 – Learn the Facts
Step 2 – Minimize Opportunity
Step 3 – Talk About It
Step 4 – Recognize the Signs
Step 5 – React Responsibly
Behavioral Consequences of Child Abuse

Children who experience maltreatment are at an increased for:

• Alcoholism
• Criminal record and behavior
• Delinquency
• Drug abuse
• Engagement in high-risk sexual behaviors

• Not graduating from school
• Low academic achievement
• Smoking
• Teen pregnancy
Consequences of Child Abuse

Child may experience:

• Increased risk for adverse health effects
• Learning difficulties
• Memory difficulties
• Post-traumatic stress disorder
• Psychiatric disorders
• Severe or fatal head trauma such as Shaken Baby Syndrome
• DEATH!!!
What is domestic violence?
Domestic Violence

Phase 3 – Honeymoon

Phase 1 – Tension

Phase 2 – Incident

Cycle of Abuse

Source: Domestic Violence Roundtable
Domestic Violence
(click on link)
Skills and Resources Available to Address Abuse
Child Protective Services
Division of Texas

- Investigating reports of abuse and neglect of children
- Providing services to children and families in their own homes
- Placing children in foster care
- Providing services to help youth in foster care make the transition to adulthood
- Placing children in adoptive homes
Reporting Suspected Abuse and Neglect

Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting and Requirements

(click on link)
National Child Abuse Hotline

(click on picture)
How to Help Someone in Need

• Don’t be afraid to let the person know that you are concerned for his or her safety.
• Acknowledge that he or she is in a very difficult and scary situation.
• Be supportive.
• Be non-judgmental.
Help and Hope
(click on link)
Picture Door Organizer

Picture Door Organizer

(click on link)
Questions
Images:
- Microsoft Clip Art: Used with permission from Microsoft.
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Textbook:

Websites:
- Child Abuse and Neglect
  Source: This site, from a bureau of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, provides links to basic information about child abuse and neglect and too many other sites and publications that provide more detailed information and help. (Child Welfare Information Gateway)  
  http://www.childwelfare.gov/can/
- Childstats.gov
  This website provides information on key indicators in seven domains: family and social environment, economic circumstances, health care, physical environment and safety, behavior, education, and health.  
  http://www.childstats.gov/americaschildren/famsoc7.asp
- National Abuse Hotline
  Source: The National Domestic Violence Hotline receives more than 23,500 calls per month from victims, survivors, friends and family members, law enforcement personnel, domestic violence advocates and the general public. Hotline advocates provide support and assistance to anyone involved in a domestic violence situation, including those in same-sex relationships, male survivors, those with disabilities and immigrant victims of domestic violence. All calls to the National Domestic Violence Hotline are anonymous and confidential.  
  http://www.thehotline.org/
- National Center for Children Exposed to Violence
  Source: Relevant websites, statistics, reports, books, and journal articles  
  http://www.nccev.org/violence/domestic.html
- National Coalition Against Domestic Violence
  Source: The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence is “a grassroots non-profit membership organization working since 1978 to end violence in the lives of women.  
  http://ncadv.org
References and Resources

- Prevent Child Abuse Texas
  Source: Prevent Child Abuse Texas (PCATX)
  Is a statewide non-profit organization working to prevent child abuse and neglect in all its forms throughout Texas. The work of the organization depends solely on private grants and contributions. The organization is led by a statewide Board of Directors who represent their regions through community agencies and organizations dealing with social issues affecting children.
  [http://www.preventchildabusetexas.org/vitalsdaily.html](http://www.preventchildabusetexas.org/vitalsdaily.html)

- Texas Child Protective Services
  Investigating reports of abuse and neglect of children and providing services to children and families in their own homes.
  [https://www.dfps.state.tx.us/child_protection/](https://www.dfps.state.tx.us/child_protection/)

- Texas Education Agency
  Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting and Responsibilities

  Resource Guide includes tip sheets for parents and caregivers, ways to get involved, and six protective factors.
  [http://www.childwelfare.gov](http://www.childwelfare.gov)

YouTube:
- Childhelp National Child Abuse Hotline 1-800-4-A-CHILD
  This hotline is staffed 24/7 by degreed counselors.
  [http://youtu.be/tQ5uzupV-q8](http://youtu.be/tQ5uzupV-q8)

- Darkness to Light: End Child Sexual Abuse
  Five Steps to Protect Our Children
  [http://www.d2l.org/site/c.4dICJIOkGcISe/b.6143703/k.2746/The_5_Steps_to_Protecting_Our.Children.htm](http://www.d2l.org/site/c.4dICJIOkGcISe/b.6143703/k.2746/The_5_Steps_to_Protecting_Our.Children.htm)

- Domestic Violence
  This is a video made to help raise awareness of domestic violence.
  [http://youtu.be/yWxXfMOuO4](http://youtu.be/yWxXfMOuO4)

- The Kelsey Briggs Story. (True Story Original)
  Kelsey Briggs lost her life before the age of three due to Child Abuse.
  [http://youtu.be/EzDP2IFzJ0k](http://youtu.be/EzDP2IFzJ0k)

- Picture Door Organizer
  This organizer is a multi-purpose tool. The students can incorporate information, key terms, sequential events, graphics and concept ideas. It has a hidden element that will make a presentation pop!
  [http://youtu.be/weY4PfrfM3o](http://youtu.be/weY4PfrfM3o)