

General Guidelines for Defining Status Levels

Forerunner

Family cannot meet their needs. Family is unwilling or unable to work toward positive change. Family systems have collapsed or are in immediate danger of collapse. Strong outside intervention needed to move family to “At-risk” level.

Level 1

Family is secure from immediate threats to health and safety, however has not yet developed or committed to plans for long term growth and change. Continuing safety-net intervention provides platform on which family can build its plans for improving its circumstances.

Level 2

Family is no longer in danger, is ready and willing to change and is planning for their future. Supportive services provided to assist family members in implementing their plans. Family is strong and has made significant progress in improving their circumstances: generally secure as a result of their own efforts.

Level 3

Family systems are strong and healthy, fully functional. Family is achieving its goals and is independent of all government assistance. Family is economically self-sufficient and has a clear vision of their ultimate goals.

Rating Guide

Safe and Adequate Housing

Forerunner:

Family is homeless or on the verge of homelessness.

Primary source of income has ceased and has no resources to cover housing cost.

Family has received an eviction notice.

Family is living in dangerous conditions.

Level 1:

Staying in temporary or transitional housing and not certain where next shelter is to be found.

Unable to pay rent on time every month.

Housing is unsafe or seriously overcrowded.

Family has received an eviction notice.

Level 2:

Owns home or has a lease secured for at least one year.

Able to pay rent or mortgage each month and has enough income for other expenses.

Housing is adequate for family size.

Housing is not hazardous or unhealthy.

Level 3:

Owns home or has long term lease.

No threat of eviction.

Feels housing is safe and appropriate for their needs.

Housing is adequate for size of family.

Nutrition Awareness: Meal Planning: Promoting Family Style Meals

Forerunner:

Family has no access to emergency food.

Family has no means to acquire, prepare or store food.

Family's minimum dietary requirements not met.

Level 1:

Family depends on emergency food resources (WIC, Food Stamps, etc.)

Family has limited ability to acquire, prepare nutritious, safe food.

Family needs nutritional awareness.

Level 2:

Not totally reliant on supplemental food resources (WIC, Food Stamps, etc.)

Family has access to well balanced meals that meet dietary requirements.

Family has access and the ability to select and prepare high quality foods.

Level 3:

Family is not reliant on supplemental food resources (WIC, Food Stamps, etc.)

Family has good nutritional practices.

Family is aware of nutritional guidelines.

Employment

Forerunner:

Family has no employment and not seeking a job.

No high school diploma or GED and not interested in getting one.

No job skills or limited work history.

Level 1:

Family has no employment or work is seasonal or odd jobs.

Family has limited job skills.

Staying at home and being content.

Family has to care for disabled child.

Level 2:

Family depends on temporary or seasonal employment.

Family has job skills/school that is marketable.

Family member have limited advancement available in their jobs.

Not fully satisfied with employment.

Level 3:

Family has permanent stable employment and satisfied with employment.

Primary adults completed high school/GED or greater educational level.

Family has job skills or school that allow for job Mobility.

Money Management

Forerunner:

Family income not meeting needs (food, clothing, and shelter).

Family must get help from public assistance in order to meet their needs for food, clothing, and shelter.

Family has no work skills or limited work history.

Level 1:

Family income meets basic expenses. (food, clothing, and shelter)

Family relies on help from public assistance. (KTAP and TANF)

Family has limited skills.

Level 2:

Family sometimes needs assistance to supplement benefits (public assistance, free care, etc.)

Family has some resources.

Family maintains good credit.

Level 3:

Family has all bases covered.

Family's income exceeds expenses (food, clothing, and shelter).

Family is fully independent.

Health Insurance

Forerunner:

Family has no Health coverage. (One or more family members)

Evidence of poor basic health/hygiene exists.

Family has limited access to medical care.

Level 1:

Family is seeking Health coverage.

Family has Health coverage that is not affordable.

Family relies on the emergency room service for their health care needs.

Level 2:

Family has full health coverage.

Insurance Company – payments are expensive, however family has been able to cover the cost.

Family members are in good health and/or accessing health services.

Level 3:

All family members have full Health coverage.

Co-Payments are affordable.

Family has capacity to access health services.

Medical Assistance

Forerunner:

No Medical home.

No Dental home.

Family does not go for medical care.

Level 1:

Family has no routine checkups.

Family has medical home.

Family has dental home.

Level 2:

Not happy with physician or dentist.

Family is looking to change Physician. (Provider)

Level 3:

All family members have a regular Physician.

Family has a regular Dentist.

Stress and Resilience

Forerunner:

Family has none or limited access to free mental health care.

There is evidence of active substance abuse/addiction present.

Family is unable to get treatment for unmet mental health and behavior problems within their family.

Family shares that they have a high level of unwanted stress that they do not deal with appropriately.

Level 1:

Family has limited access to mental health services.

One or more family members are currently in treatment for substance or alcohol abuse.

Family is able to cope with unmet mental health and behavior needs.

Family shares that they have a high level of unwanted stress but they deal with it appropriately.

Level 2:

Mental health care is available.

Family is accessing mental health services or completed treatment.

Family shares that there is a limited amount of stressful situations

Level 3:

Family has full health coverage.

Family has a strong support system.

There is an absence of substance/alcohol abuse.

Family has the ability to meet and identify their mental health and behavioral needs.

Transportation

Forerunner:

Family has no source of transportation.

Family has no affordable transportation and/or car uninsured.

Level 1:

Family does not own a vehicle however has support systems that always assist.

Adult family member(s) have no driver license.

Level 2:

Family has affordable transportation and/or insurance.

Family has some occasional inconvenience in regards to transportation.

Level 3:

Family always has affordable, accessible and reliable transportation and/or insurance.

Family has a reliable car.

Family Relationships

Forerunner:

Family is unable or unwilling to develop family relationships.

No family support system exists.

Level 1:

Family involved in activities with children sometimes. (when affordable).

Family shows very little motivation to be involved.

Level 2:

Relationships are generally supportive within family and/or extended family.

Family aware of importance in being involved and does activities more frequent.

Level 3:

Family has a strong, supportive family and friend's social network.

Family involved in various activities with their children.

Head Start Involvement

Forerunner:

Not aware of Head Start involvement activities.

Family shows no interest in being involved.

Level 1:

Family is aware of Head Start involvement activities. (Parent Meetings, Home Projects, Policy Committee, and etc.)

Family participates every now and then.

Level 2:

Family seeks information on Head Start involvement activities. (Parent Meetings, Home Projects, Policy Committee, and etc.)

Family frequently involved in Head Start activities.

Level 3:

Family always participates in Head Start activities. (Parent Meetings, Home Projects, Policy Committee, and etc.)

Family is always aware of Head Start activities.

Engagement

Forerunner:

Family refuses to allow Head Start staff to visit their home.

Family shows no involvement in conferences or curriculum.

Family does not attend any conferences or other meetings.

Level 1:

Family allows staff into their home, but gives very little input.

Family does not attend conferences, meetings, etc. at school.

Family is aware of conferences and curriculum.

Family does not express interest in attending meetings or ask questions.

Level 2:

Family is somewhat interested in meetings, attends school functions occasionally.

Family expresses some interest in their child's development including assessments, curriculum, what strategies can be used at home, etc.

Level 3:

Family actively participates in conferences and curriculum.

Family returns home activities

Developmental Screenings

Forerunner:

Family is unaware of child's developmental needs.

Family will not give permission for child to receive developmental screenings.

Level 1:

Family is aware, however unresponsive to child's developmental needs (i.e. will not take child for needed follow-up).

Child has received only one developmental screening. (Parent shows no interest in results)

Level 2:

Family is involved in meeting child's developmental needs and performance.

Family has understanding of developmental screenings and their results.

Level 3:

Family involved in meeting child's developmental needs.

Child completed all developmental screenings and follow up as needed.

Attendance

Forerunner:

Attendance is poor.

Children do not show up.

Level 1:

Some absenteeism.

Family knows attendance policy.

Level 2:

Child attends school except during illness or emergency.

Attend on a regular basis.

Level 3:

Child attends school regularly.

Child does not miss for anything.

Current Education Status/Furthering Education

Forerunner:

Family has no access or support to pursue learning and education needed.

Adult family members have no skills and/or credentials.

Adult family members are unable to identify and link educational plans with employment.

One or more adults are functionally illiterate.

Level 1:

One or more adult family members are seeking GED or vocational training.

Some family members lack language skills needed for day to day functioning.

Level 2:

Family members are able to identify and link educational plans with employment.

Family has a positive attitude toward learning.

Family is active, ongoing learners.

Level 3:

Family is active, ongoing learners (formal or informal).

Family is employed full time and able to meet life demands.

Adult members of the family have high school diploma, GED or vocational training.

Community Involvement

Forerunner:

There is a lack of involvement in the community/neighborhood.

Family feels socially isolated or alienated from community.

Family does not feel safe in community.

Level 1:

There is a lack of involvement in the community/neighborhood.

Family feels a lack of support from their community/neighborhood.

Family desires to leave the community/neighborhood

Level 2:

There is a sense of belonging and investment in the community/neighborhood.

Family feels safe in their community.

Level 3:

Family is actively involved in community/neighborhood activities and/or organizations.

Family believes they can depend on community in time of need.

Family feels safe in the community/neighborhood they live.

Kindergarten Readiness

Forerunner:

Family is not aware of Kindergarten readiness.

Family shows no interest in Kindergarten readiness.

Level 1:

Family is aware of Kindergarten readiness.

Family does not participate in daily activities for Kindergarten.

Level 2:

Family is aware of process for Kindergarten ready.

Family not fully involved in school readiness activities.

Level 3:

Family is fully prepared for school.

Family knows staff at school.

Family Interest/Goals

Forerunner:

Family has no interest, goals, or hobbies.

Family cannot identify any personal strength(s).

Level 1:

Family has some interests, however not willing to share.

Family can identify personal goals that may or may not be implemented.

Level 2:

Family identifies interest, goals, and hobbies.

Family is willing to share with others and build on it.

Level 3:

Family accomplished goals.

Family is working on improvements/goals.

Family shares frequently with others regarding accomplishments.

Promoting Head Start

Forerunner:

Family does not know how to become involved.

Family does not share information.

Level 1:

Family is aware of ways to become involved.

Family is involved occasionally.

Level 2:

Family works on becoming more involved.

Family participates in Head Start. (Volunteers)

Level 3:

Family helps with recruitment.

Family is active with Head Start.