 **Family Outcome Tool Needs Assessment**

(*HSPPS 1302.52(b), 1302.50(b))*

**Actual Survey is completed via a link sent to parents. *Do not complete the survey on paper.***

**Why do we ask personal family questions?** – **A Needs Assessment is** required by EHS/Head Start to support whole family needs. The personal questions are for the purpose of recognizing family strengths and to support areas that families may want more information for community resources/referrals. It is also helpful for staff to refer to the family **Customer Connection Form and Client Intake to get to know the family prior to visiting.** TheNeeds Assessment is divided into the ***7 Parent Family and Community Engagement Outcomes (PFCE),*** totaling **25** questions. Please reference your area Resource Guide, Weebly, PFCE Needs Assessment Resources, and utilize your local Family Engagement Specialist for questions about referral sources.

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| **FAMILY WELL-BEING – (PFCE Outcome 1):****Families are safe, healthy, and have increased financial security (10 categories, 17 questions).**  |
| **Housing:** |
| ***1. Do you currently have stable housing? Need\_\_\_\_\_\_ No Need\_\_\_\_\_\_*** ***Family’s Current Housing:*** * ***Own***
* ***Rent***
* ***Homeless***
* ***Shelter or Transitional Housing***
* ***Doubled Up***
* ***Hotel/Motel***
* ***At risk for eviction***
* ***At risk for foreclosure***

***More on the family story:***  |
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| **Food:** |
| ***2. Do you have enough food for your family monthly?*** ***Need\_\_\_\_\_\_ No Need \_\_\_\_\_\_******3. Would you and your family enjoy the option to have more fresh fruits and vegetables for meals and snacks?***  ***Need \_\_\_\_\_ No Need \_\_\_\_\_\_***  ***Discussion cues to help determine barriers:*** * ***Does the family want to eat fresh fruits and/or vegetables?***
* ***Does cost and/or availability of fresh fruits/veggies impact if the family eats them regularly?***
* ***Consider that frozen fruits and veggies are also healthy.***
* ***Does the family want some tips for cooking/preparing fruits/veggies?***

***More on the family story:*** |
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| **Clothing:** |
| ***4. Do you have the resources to provide your family with enough daily and seasonal clothing?***  ***Need\_\_\_\_\_\_ No Need \_\_\_\_\_\_******More on the family story:*** |
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| **Transportation:** |
| ***5. Do you have reliable transportation? Need \_\_\_\_\_ No Need \_\_\_\_\_******More on the family story:*** |
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| **Health Insurance and Medical Home:** |
| ***6. Does your enrolled child have health insurance? Need \_\_\_\_\_\_ No Need \_\_\_\_\_\_******7. Does your enrolled child have a regular Dr. Office? (Medical Home) Need \_\_\_\_\_\_ No Need \_\_\_\_\_\_******8. Does anyone in your family need health insurance? Need \_\_\_\_\_\_ No Need \_\_\_\_\_\_******9. Does anyone in your family need a regular Dr. Office? (Medical Home) Need \_\_\_\_\_\_ No Need \_\_\_\_\_\_******More on the family story:*** |
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| **Dental Insurance and Dental Home:**  |
| ***10. Does your enrolled child(ren) have Dental Insurance? Need \_\_\_\_\_ No Need\_\_\_\_\_******11. Does your enrolled child(ren) have a regular Dentist? (Dental Home) Need \_\_\_\_\_ No Need \_\_\_\_\_******12. Does anyone in your family need Dental Insurance? Need \_\_\_\_\_ No Need \_\_\_\_\_******13. Does anyone in your family need a regular Dentist? (Dental Home) Need \_\_\_\_\_ No Need \_\_\_\_\_******More on the family story:*** |
|  |
| **Economic Stability:**  |
| ***14. Do you have enough household income to meet your family household needs?*** ***Need \_\_\_\_\_ No Need\_\_\_\_\_******More on the family story:*****NMCAA Available Resources to Offer to Families:** **Track these referrals and/or other resources or referrals in SS Tracking or Child Plus Direct Entry.** ***NMCAA offers the following services, which we can refer families if they want information:*** * *Utilities Assistance Information (Heating for your home)* ***Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_***
* *Tax Preparation (January-April)* ***Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_***
* *Budget Counseling Workshops* ***Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_***
* *Bankruptcy Education Workshops* ***Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_***
* *Foreclosure Prevention Information (Can you pay rent or mortgage monthly?)* ***Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_***
* *Homeownership Workshops* ***Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_***
* *Weatherization for the Following Counties:*
* *Charlevoix, Emmet, Antrim, Grand Traverse, Wexford, Missaukee, Leelanau, Benzie, Kalkaska, & Roscommon*
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| **Safety:**  |
| ***15. Do you and family members feel safe in your home? Need\_\_\_\_\_\_ No Need\_\_\_\_\_\_**** ***Physical/Bodily Safety of All Types.*** *(Staff may refer to the Talk, Protect, Report bookmarks for sexual abuse awareness and prevention)*
* ***Emotional Safety*** *(Emotional Safety within the Household****).***
* ***Are you in need of any safety items for your household*** *(such as smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors, fire extinguishers, wood stove, outdoor wood burners, etc.)?*

***More on the family story:*** |
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| **Mental and Emotional Health: *(Normalize mental health needs!***  *We ask about mental health to support family wellness; we are not just a child development program.* ***Our program is here to support, not judge anyone.*** *Many families benefit from support for stress, anxiety, depression, self-harming (any form of harm to self), and suicidal thoughts.*  |
| **Discussion cues to help normalize that we all have emotional needs for discussing question 16:** **In our Program, we use “Your Journey Together,” and other resources that focus on supporting family Resilience, Strengths and Protective Factors!** **□ Parental Resilience** Helps us bounce back from tough situations; positive well-being also promotes our children’s resilience & well-being **□ Social Connections** Having supportive family, friends & neighbors, helps us feel valued, reduces our stress, and builds our family resilience **□ Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development ~ *Parents are their child’s primary nurturer and teacher!***We parent based on how we were parented and how we want to parent. Supporting our resilience and knowing what to expect of children’s development makes parenting easier. Recognizing children’s strengths and their needs helps their development and positive well-being.**□ Concrete Support in Times of Need** We all need help! Social connections & supporting our own resilience makes it easier for us to ask for help.**□ Social and Emotional Competency of Children ~** Collaborate with educators to support our children’s social and emotional skills. Focusing on children’s strengths, helping them to get along with others, and express themselves will help them be resilient, and successful in life. ***16. You show courage and resilience by asking for help. Do you feel that you have the support you need for all members of your family to manage any of the following common needs? Need \_\_\_\_\_\_ No Need\_\_\_\_\_\_**** ***Stress***
* ***Anxiety***
* ***Depression***
* ***Any form of physical harm to body***
* ***Suicidal thoughts***

***If the response is Need, we thank the family when reflecting on survey results for trusting us and we offer to connect them with needed support, which usually involves a confidential mental health referral. We refer to professionals who are compassionate and respectful.*** ***Please note parent responses for the following:******Has the parent spoken with their Doctor about concerns? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_******If there is a Mental Health Consultant or Therapist, has the parent made them aware of concerns?***  ***Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_******More on the family story:*** |
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| **Substance Misuse:** *(Our program is here to support your family; not judge. Responses are confidential in our program.)*  |
| ***17. Do you feel you would have the support needed IF someone in your family was misusing substances?*** ***Need \_\_\_\_\_\_ No Need \_\_\_\_\_\_******More on the family story:*** |
| **POSITIVE PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIPS - (PFCE Outcome 2): Beginning with transitions to parenthood, parents and families develop warm relationships that nurture their child’s learning and development. (1 question)** |
| **Parenting Skills/Nurturing Relationships:** |
| ***18. Do you feel you have the tools for positive parenting and nurturing relationships with your children?***  ***Need \_\_\_\_\_\_ No Need \_\_\_\_\_\_******More on the family story:*** |
| **FAMILIES AS LIFELONG EDUCATORS - (PFCE Outcome 3): Parents and families observe, guide, promote, and participate in the everyday learning of their children at home, school, and in their communities. (1 question)** |
| **Parents are their child’s most important teacher right from birth and are essential in their child’s healthy development and learning!**  |
| ***19. You are your child’s first and most important teacher! Do you feel you have the tools you need to support your child(ren) in learning (school readiness) at home? Need \_\_\_\_\_\_ No Need\_\_\_\_\_\_******More on the family story:*** |
| **FAMILIES AS LEARNERS - (PFCE Outcome 4): Parents and families advance their own learning interests through education, training and other experiences that support their parenting, careers, and life goals. (3 questions)** |
| ***Families as Learners:*** |
| ***20. Does any adult in your home have interest in information for completing their GED OR High School Diploma OR adult job training programs?******Need \_\_\_\_\_\_ No Need \_\_\_\_\_\_******21. Does any adult in your home have interest in local college programs?******Need \_\_\_\_\_\_ No Need \_\_\_\_\_\_*****22. We promote primary family languages. If other languages are spoken in your home, do you want information for multiple languages spoken in your home?** ***Need \_\_\_\_\_\_ No Need \_\_\_\_\_\_\_******More on the family story:*** |
| **FAMILY ENGAGEMENT IN TRANSITIONS - (PFCE Outcome 5): Parents and families support and advocate for their child’s learning and development as they move to new learning environments, including EHS to HS, EHS/HS to other early learning environments, and HS to kindergarten through elementary school. (1 question)** |
| **Transitions:**  |
| ***23. Are you confident preparing your child for new transitions such as new settings like Head Start (for EHS transitioning kids) day care, Kindergarten, or family changes?*** ***Need \_\_\_\_\_\_ No Need \_\_\_\_\_\_\_******More on the family story:*** |
| **FAMILY CONNECTIONS TO PEERS/COMMUNITY - (PFCE Outcome 6): Parents and families form connections with peers and mentors in formal or informal social networks that are supportive and/or educational and that enhance social well-being and community life. (1 question)** |
| **Social Networks:** |
| ***24. Do you have family, friends, community-based groups, or recreational groups who support you? (These supports can even be the friendly lady at the grocery store or the library).***  ***Need \_\_\_\_\_\_ No Need \_\_\_\_\_\_\_******More on the family story:*** |
| **FAMILIES AS ADVOCATES AND LEADERS - (PFCE Outcome 7): Parents and families participate in leadership development, decision-making, program policy development, or in community and state organizing activities to improve children’s development and learning experiences. (1 question)** |
| **Advocating for your child, family, and community:** |
| ***25. Do you feel that you can “use your voice” to speak up or advocate for the needs of your child(ren) and their school experiences and your family needs? Need \_\_\_\_\_ No Need \_\_\_\_\_******More on the family story:*** |

Follow the Family Outcomes Tool Needs Assessment and Home Practices and Routines Guidance for who sends the FOT survey link, does the follow up and data entry.

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**Tools and Talking Points to Support Learning about**

**Families and to Build Positive Goal-Oriented Relationships**

**Head Start Parent and Family Engagement Outcomes:**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **□** Family Well-Being | □ Positive Parent-Child Relationships | □ Families as Lifelong Educators |
| □ Families as Learners | □ Family Engagement in Transitions | □ Family Connections to Peers and Community |
| □ Families as Advocates and Leaders |  |  |

**Your Journey Together and Protective Factors:**

* **Parental Resilience**: Helps us bounce back from tough situations; positive well-being also promotes our children’s resilience and well-being.
* **Social Connections**:Having supportive family, friends, and neighbors, helps us feel valued, reduces our stress, and builds our family resilience.
* **Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development ~ *Parents are their child’s primary nurturer and teacher!***We parent based on how we were parented and how we want to parent. Supporting our resilience and knowing what to expect of children’s development makes parenting easier. Recognizing children’s strengths and their needs helps their development and positive well-being.
* **Concrete Support in Times of Need**: We all need help! Social connections & supporting our own resilience makes it easier for us to ask for help.
* **Social and Emotional Competency of Children**:Collaborate with educators to support our children’s social and emotional skills. Focusing on children’s strengths, helping them to get along with others, and express themselves will help them be resilient, and successful in life.

**Active Listening Strategies:**

**Be affirming and validating ~** Affirm a family’s willingness and courage to their openness and sharing of personal information. Ex. – ***“That took a lot of courage to share that with me.” “Thank you for trusting me.” “I heard you say…is there more you’d like to share with me?”***

**Show sensitivity and compassion ~** Be empathic when a parent is emotional or vulnerable. When parents seem sad, angry, or confused, sometimes the best thing we can do is express our empathy rather than trying to fix***. “That sounds really difficult.” “That does not sound easy to experience.”***

**Ask clarifying questions ~** Timing questions right shows that you are interested and engaged. “***You seem to be saying….is that correct?” or “Thank you for sharing with me. What ways can I help?” Questions can be sensitive, so trust your gut on the timing of the question.***

**Considerations and Reflections for Conversations:**

* Discover skills and strengths (for family and yourself)
* Ask a family…What are your hopes and dreams?”
* “Have you thought about a goal you’d like to work on for your family?”
* What *Stressors* are in the way for the family? / What *Stressors* are in the way for me?
* How am I feeling? / How might the family be feeling?

**Tools for Supporting Staff in Working with Families:**

**Family Outcome Tool:** Home Practices and Routines

**Your Journey Together:** (*Note the Adult Resilience Survey/Plan & Caregiving Practices (through age 18) & Strategies; Building Your Bounce; For Now and Forever Booklets)*

**ReadyRosie:**

**e-Deca:** Reports/Resources, Parent Handouts (Find in Help – Available Documents)**; Conscious Discipline (*including our Premium Membership*); Theraplay**

**FSW Credentialing:** Circle of Supports

**Mindfulness:** Mind Yeti; Self-Care

**“Using Your Past” Questions:** (healthychildren.org)