Audience Groups 1-8 (Working Together 2010)

Methods Small group exercise; large group feedback

Preparation
The children for the case studies need to be chosen and handouts prepared with the appropriate child’s story and the associated family case study. Ensure that everyone has a copy of the child or young person’s story and a copy of the associated family case study.

- F1.0 Evans family case study
- F1.1 Fiona’s story
- F1.2 Steve’s story
- F1.3 Liam’s story
- F1.4 Shirene’s story
- F1.5 Lewis’ story
- F2.0 Henderson/Miller/Taylor family case study
- F2.1 Claire’s story
- F2.2 Darren’s story
- F2.3 Michelle’s story
- F2.4 Troy’s story
- F2.5 Susan’s story
- F3.0 Akhtar family case study
- F3.1 Mabina’s story
- F3.2 Saleem’s story
- F3.3 Wasim’s story

Links to Common Core
Common Core 2 Child and young person development (knowledge: understand how young babies, children and young people develop). Know about the Child Health Promotion Programme and Common Assessment Framework for Children and Young People (CAF) and, where appropriate, how to use them.

Learning Outcomes
To assess the nature and extent of a child’s developmental needs.

Process
Allocate groups one of the case study children. Ask the groups to consider the following:

Statement:
One agency that is represented in the group is having a significant amount of contact with this family and is concerned that the child/young person is being neglected.

They have discussed the case with their line manager and have made a decision that it would be beneficial to undertake a fuller assessment of the child’s situation.

Time
Total: 45 minutes
1. Ask the group to discuss and decide what actions they would take and in what order (15 minutes). Example of actions include:

- Speak with Shireen and her family to explain the reason for the assessment and get their agreement
- Agree with Mabina and Wasim how the assessment will be conducted and in what timescales
- Identify the sources of information, including which agencies are in contact with Susan that can provide information to inform the assessment
- Conduct interviews with Liam's parents/carers/family members
- Undertake direct work with Troy

2. Having agreed the process, ask the group to assume that their assessment is complete and that they have formed judgements and reached decisions about the child and family's needs. Ask them formulate a plan of action by completing the following template. Ensure that desired outcomes are specific to the child, and that in reality there would be a plan for each child in the family. For example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Desired Outcome</th>
<th>Actions</th>
<th>Who will do this?</th>
<th>By when?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Improve Liam's physical health</td>
<td>Supply the family with contact details for the local Health Centre</td>
<td>Health worker</td>
<td>Within next week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Register Liam with local GP and make initial appointment for persistent chesty cough</td>
<td>Fiona Evans</td>
<td>Within 2 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve Wasim's social and emotional wellbeing</td>
<td>Refer Wasim for playgroup, 2 x mornings per week at the local children's centre</td>
<td>Family Support Worker</td>
<td>Referral within 7 working days. Sessions to commence within 4 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mabina to take Wasim to the sessions</td>
<td>Mabina Akhtar</td>
<td>Twice every week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensure that Susan is kept safe from harm</td>
<td>Parenting support for Claire and Darren to increase their knowledge and understanding of safe parenting. Work to include: <strong>Boundaries and routine</strong> Appropriate carers Safe environments for children</td>
<td>Initial 1-1 sessions with social worker to build confidence</td>
<td>6 weekly sessions commencing within 1 month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Referral to parenting plus programme (or similar) by Health Visitor</td>
<td></td>
<td>Commence programme in next 12 weeks and complete within 6 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enable Troy to socially interact with other children of his own age and engage in positive social activities</td>
<td>Referral to local youth service</td>
<td>Housing worker</td>
<td>Immediate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ensure physical and financial resources are made available to support Troy’s involvement via initial application for financial support from Youth Inclusion Team.</td>
<td>Family support worker</td>
<td>Grant application within 7 days.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Youth club subscription (50p per week) to be given to Troy</td>
<td>Claire and Darren Henderson/Miller</td>
<td>Family work within 1 month</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Childhood Neglect: Improving Outcomes for Children*