

Audience Groups 1-6 (Working Together 2010)

Methods Small group discussion; plenary

Preparation

Read the chapter on housing in Jack and Gill (2003).

Trainers will need to refer to handout:-

■ H2 Child neglect and supporting workers

This handout could be printed out and given to the participants.

Links to Common Core

Common Core 5 Multi-agency working (skills: communication and teamwork). Provide timely, appropriate, succinct information to enable other practitioners to deliver their support to the child or young person, parent or carer.

Childhood Neglect: Improving Outcomes for Children

Learning Outcomes

To address family and environmental factors.

Process

As Jack and Gill (2003) have pointed out, social workers tend to overlook the importance of housing, even though it often of central importance to families.

In cases of neglect, issues of housing are often of key importance in themselves, and also because of their interaction with the other factors from the domain of 'Family and environmental factors'.

For example, it is difficult to secure employment with no stable address; social integration and accessing community resources are also difficult if there are frequent moves of house. Housing issues can be a contributory factor for neglect, for example, it can be difficult to keep a child warm if the heating system is too expensive to run. Housing problems can also stem from the same problems that are associated with neglect, for example, substance misuse can be associated with neglect and with frequent house moves.

Continued ↘

Time

Total : 1 hour 15 minutes

Small groups 45 minutes

Plenary 30 minutes

further

**Addressing
housing needs**

G32₁

Process Continued ▾

First ask the group to work in small groups.

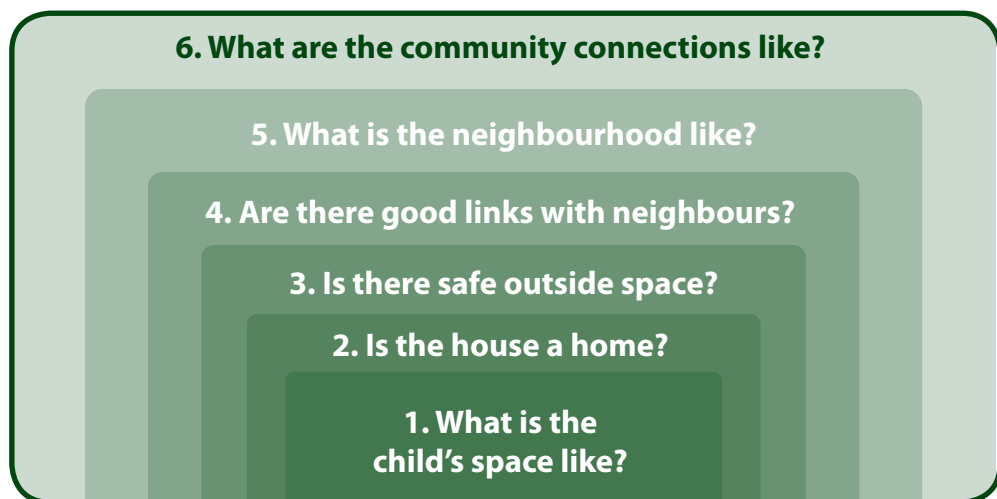
For 15 minutes participants should remind themselves of the 'family and wider environmental factors':

- family history and functioning
- wider family
- housing
- employment
- income
- family's social integration
- community resources

and:

- consider the ways in which any housing issues can interact with the other factors
- explore ways in which assisting families with one or two of the other factors could have positive spin-offs for housing.

For the next 30 minutes the group should use Figure 1 An ecology of being nurtured at home and the grid with suggestions of areas to consider, to explore interventions at different levels aimed at ensuring that the neglected child has an appropriate housing experience.



Bring the group together to share their suggestions – encourage them to be as specific as possible when making suggestions.

Use 'H2 Child neglect and supporting workers' to prompt further discussion about intervention and the importance of tailoring the intervention based on assessment of the source of the problem.

Addressing
housing needs

further

G32₂

Figure 1: An ecology of being nurtured at home