

Department of Children and Family Services

POLICY AND PROCEDURE GUIDE
DIVISION 3- CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES – CHILD WELFARE SERVICES
CHAPTER 4 – ASSESSMENT /CASE PLAN SERVICES
ITEM 10 – PARENTING PROGRAM

DATE: 6-26-03
REVISION: NEW
PREPARED BY: PARENTING

POLICY: The Department of Children and Family Services provides a parenting education course available to residents of Fresno County and as part of court ordered services to families at risk.

PURPOSE: This protocol provides Social Workers with guidelines for providing services and facilitating parenting classes that comply with the Welfare and Institutions Code.

REFERENCE: Welfare and Institutions Code 16507.7 Family Nurturing Parenting Program

INTRODUCTION: The parenting program is a collaborative effort between the Department of Children and Family Services and the Fresno Adult School.

Social work staff provides education services to Juvenile Court ordered clients, clients who are at high risk of entering the Juvenile Court system, and to volunteers from the community.

The utilized curriculum is the Family Nurturing Parenting Program developed by Stephen J. Bavolek. The curriculum emphasizes working with the entire family system on a cognitive level.

The parenting program is a 14-week class that meets weekly for three hours. There is a class graduation on the 15th week. Childcare is provided to class participants. There is no cost to the class participant.

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PROCEDURE:

- I. Referral Procedure
 - A. Community participants
 1. Call parenting unit clerk at 253-9524
 - B. Internal Referrals
 1. Parenting social workers will receive referrals from the assigned case manager.
 2. The referrals (form #6169) are routed through the Central Desk.
 3. Court cases must have the current Court order attached.
 4. The parenting unit clerk will log the referral and obtain a case folder for each person referred for parenting classes.
 5. The parenting social worker will contact the case manager to verify the information on the referral.
 6. The parenting social worker will send the first letter to the consumer to advise the consumer that a referral has been received and to request the consumer contact the parenting social worker for detailed information.
 7. A second letter is sent to the consumer as to the date, time, and location of the class and to request the consumer contact the social worker regarding further information and to confirm their attendance.
 8. If there is no response from the second letter, a phone call or a home visit will be made by the parenting social worker.
 9. A third letter will be sent to notify the client of the time and location of the class.
 10. The parenting social worker will send the case manager copies of all letters and will narrate all services in CWS/CMS under the service provider section of the narrative.
 - C. Class Participation and Curriculum
 1. Participants must attend one of the first three classes.
 2. Each parenting class will meet for three hours a week for 14 weeks and will include but is not limited to the following components:
 - building self esteem
 - handling stress and anger
 - the growth and development of children
 - developing and increasing communications skills

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- learning to use positive disciplinary mechanisms as alternatives to the physical treatment of children including what constitutes abuse and neglect
 - learning the boundaries of permissible sexual conduct by adults in regard to children
 - respect for and sensitivity to cultural differences in child rearing practices
 - domestic violence
 - nutrition
 - substance abuse
 - choices and consequences
 - family rules
3. The parenting class graduation will be held on the 15th week.
 4. Each class will have a ratio of 15 parents to each teacher.
 5. The parenting social worker will notify the case manager whether or not the participant attended class each week. If the participant is dropped from class, the case manager will be notified by the parenting social worker.
 6. Class participants will be allowed three absences before they are dropped from the class.
 7. At the end of the class, the participant will receive a certificate of completion from the parenting program and a certificate of completion from the Fresno Adult School.
 8. Evaluation of all Court ordered consumers will be completed by the social worker and approved by the social work supervisor. The evaluation will be completed within three weeks. A copy of the evaluation will be sent to the case manager.

Approved By:	Date:
Reviewed By:	Date: