

Addressing Early Mental Health and Developmental Needs

Factors that Influence Social-Emotional Development of Young Children

- ▶ Understand how child maltreatment affects children's development.
- ▶ Ensure placements for very young children provide long-term stability and promote healthy attachments.

Mental Health Assessment and Services

- ▶ Order an immediate screening of the child's mental health issues.
- ▶ Require a screening to identify developmental delays and disorders.
- ▶ Ensure the comprehensive mental health assessment is initiated within 30-60 days of placement.
- ▶ Order a reassessment of the child's mental health status during placement.
- ▶ Ensure a continuum of services is offered to each child.
- ▶ Ensure frequent parent-child contact.
- ▶ Ensure frequent sibling contact.
- ▶ Ensure the mental health and emotional needs of the parent(s) are assessed and appropriate services are provided.
- ▶ Order a determination of the intensity and type of services required to meet the family's needs.
- ▶ Order an assessment to determine whether the child and parent would benefit from Child-Parent Psychotherapy.

- ▶ Order an assessment of whether the child and parent would benefit from Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT).
- ▶ Ensure services respond to the needs of different ethnic and cultural groups.

Early Care and Education

- ▶ Ensure children participate in positive early childhood learning experiences.
- ▶ Carefully consider the availability and quality of early care and education settings.

