



# **In-Home Prevention Cases**

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**Deborah Reed, LICSW, LCSW, Family  
First Implementation Specialist**

**Britt Miller, LMSW, Family First  
Program Specialist**



# Family First Prevention Services

2



The primary commitment and responsibility of Child and Family Services (CFS) is the safety, well-being, and permanency of children who are victims of child abuse, neglect, or abandonment. As an agency, we believe the best approach to **support and protect children is to strengthen families**, so they can safely parent their children and meet the child's needs for permanency and well-being.

**Kids deserve to grow up in families. With the Family First Act we have an opportunity to modernize child welfare and move toward an approach that strengthens families and proactively supports those at risk of abuse, neglect and separation from their family.**

[www.FamilyFirstAct.org](http://www.FamilyFirstAct.org)



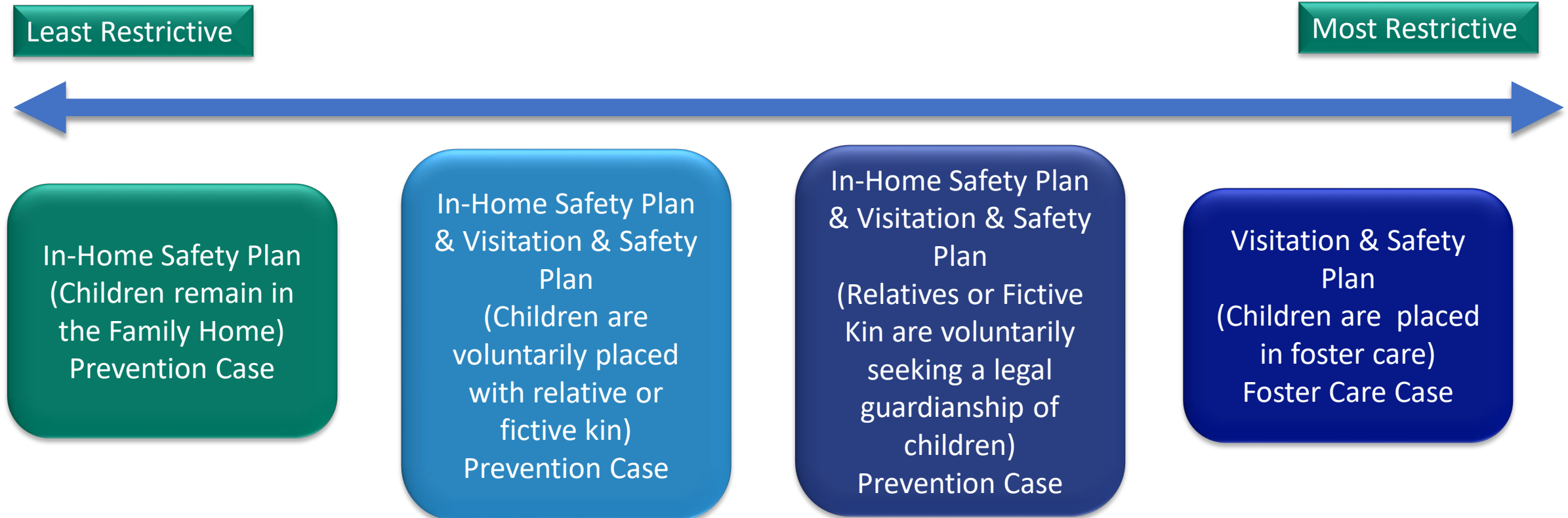
Approved on March 2, 2023 and:

- Outlines the structure for in-home prevention cases and determines case load size
- Identifies and describes the prevention services and programs that will be implemented by Idaho
- Defines Idaho's definition of "candidate"
- The process for developing child specific prevention plans
- Description of how the state will monitor and oversee the safety of children
- The state's approach to evaluation and CQI of prevention programs
- Training and support for staff and service providers

<https://publicdocuments.dhw.idaho.gov/WebLink/DocView.aspx?id=25166&dbid=0&repo=PUBLIC-DOCUMENTS>



## Safety Planning Continuum





- The first priority is always child safety
- A comprehensive safety assessment indicates that a child(ren) is unsafe because of a safety threat
- The safety threat can be mitigated through an in-home safety plan
  - This is not new, Idaho has always had in-home cases
- The following must be met:
  - There is at least one caregiver in the home,
  - The home is calm enough to allow safety providers to function in the home,
  - The adult(s) in the home are willing to cooperate with and allow an in-home safety plan, and
  - There are sufficient, appropriate, reliable resources available and willing to provide safety services
- Reassessing safety is continuous throughout the life of the case



- In home safety plan should be developed by the safety assessor as soon as they identify that a child remaining in the home is unsafe.
  - Clearly identify the safety threat and the safety services that will mitigate the threat
  - Assess the identified safety monitor (willingness to work with family and FACS/background checks/home environment as needed)
  - Prevention services will be identified later on during case planning
- Reviewed frequently and updated as needed



- A child, under the age of 18, who although determined unsafe through a comprehensive safety assessment, can be safely maintained in the home of the parents or relatives/kin caretaker with a safety plan and prevention plan.
- A child, under the age of 18, whose adoption or guardianship arrangement is at risk of disruption or dissolution that would result in a foster care placement.
- A youth, who is in foster care, and is pregnant and/or parenting.
- The parents or relative/kin caretakers of those listed.





- Comprehensive Safety Assessment
- Local consultation with prevention worker and supervisor
  - Review the safety threat, safety plan and appropriateness for in-home
  - Begin gathering information for the risk assessment (FAST)
- Initial Parent Meeting
  - Gather remaining information for the CSA and the FAST
- Family Meeting
  - Final clarification for the FAST
  - Case Plan development
- Ongoing case management
  - Face to Face visits at minimum weekly for the first month
  - Face to Face visits at minimum monthly based on case circumstances and as discussed in ongoing case consultation with review of the FAST and case plan progress





- Family Advocacy and Support Tool is known as the “FAST”
- Developed by the PRAED Foundation who also developed the Child and Adolescent Needs Survey (CANS)
- Complements Idaho’s Comprehensive Safety Assessment and builds upon the information already gathered
- The FAST is a multi-purpose decision support tool developed to assist in family case planning, service matching, on-going safety and risk, and the monitoring of service outcomes. The FAST provides an understanding of a child and family's strengths, needs, and risk factors, all of which will help inform the in-home prevention case plan.



- Case Consultations occur at minimum monthly
  - Review and update the FAST
  - Review the Safety Plan
  - Review case plan progress
  - Includes information from ongoing contact with the safety plan monitor and service providers
- Re-assessment of Safety
  - Informally during each case consultation
  - Formally when family circumstances change, may be identified in FAST update or through a new report
- Timeframes
  - Federal funds through Title IVE available for up to 12 months
  - Other funding sources can be used if case remains open longer
  - Anticipate most in-home cases will complete at 6 months



- During case planning all services in the community should be considered to address the risk and safety issues within the family system. The case plan addresses the needs of both the caregivers, child(ren) and temporary caregiver.
- Evidence based and Title IVE funding eligible services include:
  - Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT)
  - Brief Strategic Family Therapy (BSFT)
  - Familias Unidas
  - Motivational Interviewing (MI)
  - Homebuilders
  - Nurse-Family Partnerships (NFP)
  - Parents as Teachers (PAT)



- At any point in the case, the circumstances may indicate the need for additional oversight.
  - Protective Supervision
    - This allows for the child to remain in the home or with a caregiver identified by the family and approved by the agency
    - Prevention Services will continue to qualify for Title IVE funds
  - Legal Custody through Endorsement
    - An in-home prevention case shows the court the reasonable and active efforts the department has tried to prevent the child's entry to foster care



For additional questions please email:

- [FamilyFirstInquiry@dhw.Idaho.gov](mailto:FamilyFirstInquiry@dhw.Idaho.gov)

Family First Prevention Services Act:

- [www.FamilyFirstAct.org](http://www.FamilyFirstAct.org)

Idaho's Five-Year Prevention Plan:

- <https://publicdocuments.dhw.idaho.gov/WebLink/DocView.aspx?id=25166&dbid=0&repo=PUBLIC-DOCUMENTS>