## **Safety Organized Practice**

# Safety Organized Practice for Collaborative Community Partners

The collaborative practice approach of Safety Organized Practice (SOP) can be utilized by all individuals working with families and DCFS including: Therapists, Community Agencies, School Personnel, Probation, etc. Below are examples of how you as a Collaborative Community Partner may see or utilize Safety Organized Practice when working with families.



## GOOD WORKING RELATIONSHIPS

- Regularly ask the family and child their opinion about what is happening to them and how they are coping.
- Utilize Solution Focused questions to obtain information about the family during interactions. (Exception, Scaling, Position, Coping, Preferred Future).

#### **CRITICAL THINKING**

- Help the family process what is going well, what we are worried about and what needs to happen next by participating in a Case Mapping at a Family Team Meeting.
- Be knowledgeable about Structured Decision Making Tools utilized by DCFS to help inform their decision making.

#### **ENHANCING SAFETY**

- Ask the family what their harm or danger statement is; the clear statements of why DCFS is involved with the family. Discuss how your role can help address the family and DCFS's worries.
- Ask the family what their safety goal/case plan is and help align community partner goals with the family's plan to create lasting safety for their family.
- Encourage families to create a strong group of safe people around them who will be there long after services you provide are gone. Help brainstorm with the family who those people could be. Encourage them to keep their networks well-informed.

