

Handout 2-1A: Family Map and Connections Diagram

Directions for all participants:

1. Read the Mason case summary on the next pages.
2. As a group, compose a minimum set of questions that the “CPI/counselor” could ask to elicit family members and supports.
3. The group members selected to be the “CPI & counselor” will interact with the family to solicit information for the tools. One person should take the lead in completing the tool, but both can ask questions. The remainder of the group will be observers.
4. Complete the Family Map or Connections Diagram as the family identifies their relatives/or community connections during the activity
5. You will have 10 minutes to interact with the family and complete the tool. You may not elicit all the information in this time and that is okay.
6. Select a member of the team as a spokesperson to share what you have learned about the family through this process.
7. The family members will be asked to share their feelings and observations about the experience.

Mary Mason/Paul Mason: Report Information

Paul Mason Age 25
Mary Mason Age 23
John Mason Age 23 months
Bobby Mason Age 9 months

REPORT AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION

A report was received from Center County Health Department stating that Bobby Mason was brought there with a severe diaper rash/yeast infection on his buttocks, upper thighs and genital areas. According to his father, Paul Mason, who brought the child to the clinic, he just noticed the “diaper rash” approximately 2 days before. He reports that Bobby has been irritable for about a week, crying all the time, and that it has gotten worse within the past 24 hours. He is at a loss to explain how the “diaper rash” got so bad. He stated that his wife is pregnant and not feeling well, so this could account for her not catching it earlier. Marion Potts, the public health nurse reported that this was “the worst yeast infection she has seen in her entire career. She states there is no way the yeast infection was only 2 days old. She asked the doctor to look at the baby who confirmed the diagnosis of yeast infection. He also stated that some of the open sores on the baby’s upper thighs were impetigo. The doctor and nurse felt that this was definitely a situation of parental neglect and contacted the Child Abuse Registry.

Additional Information Provided by Health Department Staff

Ms. Potts reported that Mr. Mason was waiting with Bobby when the clinic opened. She told him it was immunization day and that he would have to wait to be seen. Then she noticed that Bobby seemed to have a temperature so she agreed to see him immediately. Upon checking him she found that he had a temperature of 100.5 and upon disrobing him, found yeast infection on his buttocks, upper thighs and genitalia. She said the sores ranged in size with the largest the largest being the size of a quarter and the smallest the size of a dime. Dr. Anthony Sanchez saw Bobby and diagnosed the yeast infection and impetigo. He prescribed ointments for both infections and gave the baby a suppository to help reduce his temperature. Ms. Potts gave Mr. Mason directions for cleaning and applying the ointments. He told her he would pass the information on to his wife who was the primary caretaker for the children.

Records Check

A record review showed one prior. The report, made by the mother, Mary Mason, stated that her husband hit John, their 15 month old, with his fist. Mrs. Mason and the children stayed at the maternal grandmother’s home over the weekend. When the CPI spoke with her she stated that her husband did not really hit the child. She had called in the report because she was angry with him for seeing another woman. The grandmother confirmed Mrs. Mason’s story, but said the couple had been having marital difficulties. There were no visible marks or bruises on either child. The case was closed unfounded.

Legal Information

After interviewing both Mr. and Mrs. Mason, the CPI conducted a visual examination of the oldest child, John. He found sores on John’s legs and arms and requested a medical examination be conducted on both children by the Child Protection Team. The parents agreed to this.

The CPI discussed the case with his supervisor and legal. He then discussed the situation with the Masons who agreed to participate with voluntary supervision. The CPI presented the case at the ESI staffing and it was accepted by the service agency. The CPI later introduced the caseworker to the family and has agreed to make another joint visit with him.

Information from Collateral Contacts

A physical exam conducted on Bobby by CPT revealed that in addition to the yeast infection and impetigo, he was underweight and delayed in his physical development. The weight was not attributable to him being premature. A physical examination done on John revealed that he was also slightly under weight but developmentally on target. He had untreated impetigo on his forearms and calves.

Case Manager, Rhonda Dunkin, conducted a social interview with the Masons. She stated that Mrs. Mason answered all of the medical history questions on both boys but had to be prompted to stay on task. She described Mrs. Mason as being listless and possibly dissociated. Mrs. Mason reported being tired a lot and having difficulty dealing with John's behavior. She also expressed concern about being able to take care of three small children. Mrs. Mason stated that she has only had one prenatal doctor's appointment, the one where her current pregnancy was confirmed.

A background check on Paul Mason provided the following history:

<u>Offense:</u>	<u>Penalty</u>
03/03/93 Driving on the wrong side of the road	No Information
05/11/93 Possession of stolen property	No Information
02/04/97 No valid driver's license	\$75 fine
Careless driving/accident	\$15 fine
03/11/03 No valid inspection sticker	\$15 fine
No valid driver's license	\$35 fine
11/23/04 Trespass after warning	\$50 fine
07/03/08 DUI	pending

A background check on Mary Mason revealed no civil or criminal history

Mrs. Mason's mother, Melinda Day, reported that although she loves her daughter and grandchildren but finds John difficult to handle. She reported that her daughter doesn't ask for help very often and that she doesn't see much of her or her family. She said the last time she spent time with Mary or her grandchildren was about 2 or 3 months ago and she didn't notice any skin problems on either child. Mrs. Day expressed concern about Mary having the energy to take care of 3 small children. Mrs. Day confided in the CPI that Paul is not home very much and he doesn't help a lot with the children or the home. Mrs. Day feels that Mary is overwhelmed and just needs some time to get things straight. Mrs. Day said that she is willing to do whatever she can to help Mary with the children but that she would rather not be around Paul too much.