



ARIZONA DEPARTMENT of CHILD SAFETY

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When To Use This Field Guide

Use this Field Guide to identify dangers that could be present during parenting time in the family's home, and develop a plan to eliminate or control them throughout parenting time.

Use this Field Guide to support discussion at any point in the case when parenting time is not being held in the family's home, and to explore progress eliminating barriers to allow parenting time to occur safely in the home.

Use this Field Guide to support discussions during Parenting Time Services assignment, skill sessions, monthly meetings, and midpoint meetings; case plan staffings; TDM meetings; and court hearings.

Discussion of the level of supervision necessary to ensure safety, and progress toward parenting time in the home, should occur at least monthly.

Determining Parenting Time Location

Parenting time held in the most natural, family-like setting possible supports child well-being and maintenance of important connections. Parenting time in the family's home keeps the child familiar with the home; allows the child to check on pets, toys, and other items the child may be worried about; and allows observation of the parent's protective capacities in the most normal setting. Parenting time should occur in the family's home from the time of removal, unless the home has been observed to be physically hazardous or dangers in the home cannot be controlled during parenting time.

Partner With The Family And Out-Of-Home Caregiver To Develop A Parenting Time Plan

- Engage the parents, out-of-home caregivers, and the people supervising parenting time to develop a shared vision and plan for parenting time, including location in the most natural setting possible.
- If dangers can be controlled in the home while parenting time occurs, develop a plan for managing the safety threats during in-home parenting time.
- Communicate that the home does not need to meet conditions for return before parenting time can occur at the family's home, because there may be periods when the dangers are not present or can be controlled by supervision during the parenting time.
- Build a helping relationship with the family by expressing genuine care and concern.
- If dangers in the home can not be controlled throughout parenting time, model and practice problem-solving with the family to address the reasons why parenting time cannot occur in the home.
- Recognize progress made by the parents, thereby increasing motivation toward reunification.
- Keep out-of-home caregivers informed about the child's experience during parenting time, and engaged in planning related to location, supervision, and scheduling.

Identify Conditions For In-Home Parenting Time	
The family has a home where parenting time can take place, and the home will be calm and consistent during parenting time.	There must be enough known about dangers in the home, and the circumstances under which they occur, so that all dangers can be managed during the duration of parenting time.
There are no physical hazards in the home, or the child is not vulnerable to the hazards.	Consider the child's functioning, such as child's age, developmental stage, and special needs. Consider the level of parenting time supervision and whether this can control the child's exposure to physical dangers in the home.
Parent/caregiver behaviors that would be unsafe for the child will not occur or can be controlled during parenting time in the home.	Consider whether the parent's behavior is predictable. Identify a plan of how dangerous adults/behaviors can be removed, or managed by another adult, for the duration of parenting time.
There are no other adults accessing the home who present an unmanageable safety threat to the child or a person supervising.	Determine whether the person is willing to leave the home while the child is there for parenting time.
There are no child behaviors or needs that present an unmanageable safety threat to the child, parent, or person supervising.	Consider whether the child's behavior is predictable and manageable; and special care needs can be met during parenting time.
The child/youth is comfortable being in the home.	Consider the child's thoughts and feelings about being in the home, and the child's emotional readiness to be in the home.

For additional information:

- *Practice Guidelines: Parenting Time (Visitation) Parts I and II*
- *Practice Guidelines: Parenting Time Planning*
- *Field Guide- Parenting Time Supervision*