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**CHILD AND ADOLESCENT NEEDS AND STRENGTHS
(CANS)**

for

Indiana

SHORT FORM

Birth to 5

Manual

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A large number of individuals have collaborated in the development of the CANS-Comprehensive. Along with the CANS versions for developmental disabilities, juvenile justice, and child welfare, this information integration tool is designed to support individual case planning and the planning and evaluation of service systems. The CANS-Comprehensive is an open domain tool for use in service delivery systems that address the mental health of children, adolescents and their families. The copyright is held by the Buddin Praed Foundation to ensure that it remains free to use. For specific permission to use please contact the Foundation. For more information on the CANS-Comprehensive assessment tool contact:

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The CANS Initial Assessment is a referral tool to support decision making about level of need for children and families seeking services. It supports the rapid and consistent communication of the needs of children who are to be served through Indiana’s children’s System of Care. It is intended to be completed by the individuals who are directly involved with the initial identification and referral. The assessment tool serves to document the identified needs the as both a decision support tool and as documentation of the identified needs of the child and family in order to ensure the child and family receive the appropriate services.

This tool is designed from a communication theory perspective. As such, the indicators are selected to represent the key information needed in order to decide the appropriate type and intensity of services. For each indicator, four levels are anchored in order to translate the indicator into a level of action. For the Partnership for Children Needs Assessment, these four levels can be generally translated into the following:

- 0** indicates no evidence or no reason to believe that the rated item requires any action.
- 1** indicates a need for watchful waiting, monitoring or possibly preventive action.
- 2** indicates a need for action. Some strategy is needed to address the problem/need.
- 3** indicates a need for immediate or intensive action. This level indicates an immediate safety concern or a priority for intervention.

In order to enhance the reliability of the tool, anchor points have been designed to facilitate the translation of levels of each indicator into the four action levels described above. It should be noted that these anchor points represent guidelines. Since it is not feasible to exhaustively define all circumstances that might fit a particular level, the assessor may use some clinical judgment to determine the rating when no clear choice is obvious. This judgment should be guided by a decision on the appropriate level of action required for the specific indicator.

A primary goal of this tool is to further communication with both the individual child and family and Indiana’s system of care. As such, consistency and reliability in the use of the CANS Initial Assessment form is a priority. Therefore, formal training is required prior to any staff completing this tool for an actual assessment and referral.

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CODING DEFINITIONS

LIFE DOMAIN FUNCTIONING

	FAMILY <i>Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days</i>
0	No evidence of problems in interaction with family members.
1	Child is doing adequately in relationships with family members although some problems may exist. For example, some family members may have mild problems in their relationships with child including sibling rivalry or under-responsiveness to child needs.
2	Child is having moderate problems with parents, siblings and/or other family members. Frequent arguing, strained interaction with parent, and poor sibling relationships may be observed.
3	Child is having severe problems with parents, siblings, and/or other family members. This would include problems of domestic violence, constant arguing, and aggression with siblings.

	LIVING SITUATION <i>Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days</i>
0	No evidence of problem with functioning in current living environment.
1	Mild problems with functioning in current living situation. Caregivers concerned about child’s behavior or needs at home.
2	Moderate to severe problems with functioning in current living situation. Child has difficulties maintaining his/her behavior in this setting creating significant problems for others in the residence. Parents of infants concerned about irritability of infant and ability to care for infant.
3	Profound problems with functioning in current living situation. Child is at immediate risk of being removed from living situation due to his/her behaviors or unmet needs.

	PRESCHOOL/DAY CARE <i>Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days</i>
0	No evidence of problems in the preschool/day care setting.
1	Child is performing adequately in preschool/day care although some concerns are present due to past history or poor development in social or cognitive abilities.
2	Child is experiencing moderate problems with school attendance, interaction with peers, interaction with teachers and/or achievement.
3	Child is experiencing severe problems with school attendance, interaction with teachers, interaction with peers, or achievement that may even result in expulsion.

	SOCIAL FUNCTIONING <i>Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days</i>
0	No evidence of problems in social functioning.
1	Child is having some minor problems in social relationships. Infants may be slow to respond to adults, Toddlers may need support to interact with peers and preschoolers may resist social situations.
2	Child is having some moderate problems with his/her social relationships. Infants may be unresponsive to adults, and unaware of other infants. Toddlers may be aggressive and resist parallel play. Preschoolers may argue excessively with adults and peers and lack ability to play in groups even with adult support.
3	Child is experiencing severe disruptions in his/her social relationships. Infants show no ability to interact in a meaningful manner. Toddlers are excessively withdrawn and unable to relate to familiar adults. Preschoolers show no joy or sustained interaction with peers or adults, and/or aggression may be putting others at risk.

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	RECREATION/PLAY <i>Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days</i>
0	No evidence that infant or child has problems with recreation or play.
1	Child is doing adequately with recreational or play activities although some problems may exist. Infants may not be easily engaged in play. Toddlers and preschoolers may seem uninterested and poorly able to sustain play.
2	Child is having moderate problems with recreational activities. Infants resist play or do not have enough opportunities for play. Toddlers and preschoolers show little enjoyment or interest in activities within or outside the home and can only be engaged in play/recreational activities with ongoing adult interaction and support.
3	Child has no access to or interest in play or recreational activities. Infant spends most of time non interactive. Toddlers and preschoolers even with adult encouragement can not demonstrate enjoyment or use play to further development.

	DEVELOPMENTAL <i>Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days</i>
0	No evidence of developmental problems.
1	Child has some problems with acquiring new skills or there are concerns about possible developmental delay. Child may have low IQ.
2	Child has developmental delays or mild mental retardation. A child that has experienced significant developmental regression would be rated here.
3	Child has severe and pervasive developmental delays or profound mental retardation.

	MOTOR <i>Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days</i>
0	No evidence of fine or gross motor development problems.
1	Child has some indicators that motor skills are challenging and there may be some concern that there is a delay.
2	Child has either fine or gross motor skill delays.
3	Child has significant delays in fine or gross motor development or both. Delay causes impairment in functioning.

	COMMUNICATION <i>Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days</i>
0	No evidence of communication problems.
1	Child has a history of communication problems but currently is not experiencing problems. An infant may rarely vocalize. A toddler may have very few words and become frustrated with expressing needs. A preschooler may be difficult for others to understand.
2	Child has either receptive or expressive language problems that interfere with functioning. Infants may have trouble interpreting facial gestures or initiate gestures to communicate needs. Toddlers may not follow simple 1-step commands. Preschoolers may be unable to understand simple conversation or carry out 2-3 step commands.
3	Child has serious communication difficulties and is unable to communicate in any way including pointing and grunting.

	MEDICAL <i>Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days</i>
0	Child is healthy.
1	Child has some medical problems that require medical treatment.
2	Child has chronic illness that requires ongoing medical intervention.
3	Child has life threatening illness or medical condition.

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	PHYSICAL <i>Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days</i>
0	Child has no physical limitations.
1	Child has some physical condition that places mild limitations on activities. Conditions such as impaired hearing or vision would be rated here. Rate here, treatable medical conditions that result in physical limitations (e.g. asthma).
2	Child has physical condition that notably impacts activities. Sensory disorders such as blindness, deafness, or significant motor difficulties would be rated here.
3	Child has severe physical limitations due to multiple physical conditions.

	SLEEP <i>Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days</i>
0	Child gets a full night's sleep each night.
1	Child has some problems sleeping. Generally, child gets a full night's sleep but at least once a week problems arise. This may include occasionally waking or bed wetting or nightmares.
2	Child is having problems with sleep. Sleep is often disrupted and child seldom obtains a full night of sleep
3	Child is generally sleep deprived. Sleeping is difficult for the child and they are not able to get a full night's sleep.

	RELATIONSHIP PERMANENCE <i>Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days. This rating refers to the stability of significant relationships in the child or youth's life. This likely includes family members but may also include other individuals.</i>
0	This level indicates a child who has very stable relationships. Family members, friends, and community have been stable for most of child's life and are likely to remain so in the foreseeable future. Child is involved with both parents.
1	This level indicates a child who has had stable relationships but there is some concern about instability in the near future (one year) due to transitions, illness, or age. A stable relationship with only one parent may be rated here.
2	This level indicates a child has had at least one stable relationship over his/her lifetime but has experienced other instability through factors such as divorce, moving, removal from home, and death.
3	This level indicates a child who does not have any stability in relationships with any caregiver. Independent living or adoption must be considered.

CHILD BEHAVIORAL/EMOTIONAL NEEDS

	ATTACHMENT <i>Please rate based on the past 30 days</i>
0	No evidence of problems with attachment.
1	Mild problems with attachment are present. Infants appear uncomfortable with caregivers, may resist touch, or appear anxious and clingy some of the time. Caregivers feel disconnected from infant. Older children may be overly reactive to separation or seem preoccupied with parent. Boundaries may seem inappropriate with others.
2	Moderate problems with attachment are present. Infants may fail to demonstrate stranger anxiety or have extreme reactions to separation resulting in interference with development. Older children may have ongoing problems with separation, may consistently avoid caregivers and have inappropriate boundaries with others putting them at risk.
3	Severe problems with attachment are present. Infant is unable to use caregivers to meet needs for safety and security. Older children present with either an indiscriminate attachment patterns or a withdrawn, inhibited attachment patterns. A child that meets the criteria for Reactive Attachment Disorder would be rated here.

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	REGULATORY: BODY CONTROL/EMOTIONAL CONTROL: This item refers to the child’s ability to control bodily functions such as eating, sleeping and elimination as well as activity level/intensity and sensitivity to external stimulation. The child’s ability to control and modulate intense emotions is also rated here. <i>Please rate based on the past 30 days</i>
0	No evidence of regulatory problems.
1	Some problems with regulation are present. Infants may have unpredictable patterns and be difficult to console. Older children may require a great deal of structure and need more support than other children in coping with frustration and difficult emotions.
2	Moderate problems with regulation are present. Infants may demonstrate significant difficulties with transitions, and irritability such that consistent adult intervention is necessary and disruptive to the family. Older children may demonstrate severe reactions to sensory stimuli and emotions that interfere with their functioning and ability to progress developmentally. Older children may demonstrate such unpredictable patterns in their eating and sleeping routines that the family is disrupted and distressed.
3	Profound problems with regulation are present that place the child’s safety, well being and/or development at risk.

	FAILURE TO THRIVE <i>Please rate based on the past 30 days</i>
0	No evidence of failure to thrive.
1	The infant/child may have experienced past problems with growth and ability to gain weight and is currently not experiencing problems. The infant/child may presently be experiencing slow development in this area.
2	The infant or child is experiencing problems in their ability to maintain weight or growth. The infant or child may be below the 5 th percentile for age and sex, may weigh less than 80% of their ideal weight for age, have depressed weight for height, have a rate of weight gain that causes a decrease in two or more major percentile lines over time, (75 th to 25 th).
3	The infant/child has one or more of all of the above and is currently at serious medical risk.

	DEPRESSION <i>Please rate based on the past 30 days</i>
0	No evidence of problems with depression.
1	There are some indicators that the child may be depressed or has experienced situations that may lead to depression. Infants may appear to be withdrawn and slow to engage at times during the day. Older children are irritable or do not demonstrate a range of affect.
2	Moderate problems with depression are present. Infants demonstrate a change from previous behavior and appear to have a flat affect with little responsiveness to interaction most of the time. Older children may have negative verbalizations, dark themes in play and demonstrate little enjoyment in play and interactions. The child meets criteria for a DSM IV diagnosis.
3	Clear evidence of disabling level of depression that makes it virtually impossible for the child to function in any life domain.

	ANXIETY <i>Please rate based on the past 30 days</i>
0	No evidence
1	History or suspicion of anxiety problems or mild to moderate anxiety associated with a recent negative life event. An infant may appear anxious in certain situations but has the ability to be soothed. Older children may appear in need of extra support to cope with some situations but are able to be calmed.
2	Clear evidence of anxiety associated with either anxious mood or significant fearfulness. Anxiety has interfered significantly in child’s ability to function in at least one life domain. Infants may be irritable, over reactive to stimuli, have uncontrollable crying and significant separation anxiety. Older children may have all of the above with persistent reluctance or refusal to cope with some situations.
3	Clear evidence of debilitating level of anxiety that makes it virtually impossible for the child to function in any life domain.

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	ATYPICAL BEHAVIORS <i>Behaviors may include mouthing after 1 year, head banging, smelling objects, spinning, twirling, hand flapping, finger-flicking, rocking, toe walking, staring at lights, or repetitive and bizarre verbalizations. Please rate based on the past 30 days.</i>
0	No evidence of atypical behaviors in the infant/child.
1	History or reports of atypical behaviors from others that have not been observed by caregivers.
2	Clear evidence of atypical behaviors reported by caregivers that are observed on an ongoing basis.
3	Clear evidence of atypical behaviors that are consistently present and interfere with the infants/child’s functioning on a regular basis.

	IMPULSIVITY/HYPERACTIVITY <i>Please rate based on the past 30 days. The child should be 3 years of age or older to rate this item.</i>
0	No evidence
1	Some problems with impulsive, distractible or hyperactive behavior that places the child at risk of future functioning difficulties.
2	Clear evidence of problems with impulsive, distractible, or hyperactive behavior that interferes with the child’s ability to function in at least one life domain. The child may run and climb excessively even with adult redirection. The child may not be able to sit still even to eat and is often into things. The child may blurt out answers to questions without thinking, have difficulty waiting turn and intrude on others space.
3	Clear evidence of a dangerous level of impulsive and hyperactive behavior that can place the child at risk of physical harm.

	OPPOSITIONAL <i>Please item should be rated</i> The child should be 3 years of age or older to rate this item.
0	No evidence
1	History or recent onset (past 6 weeks) of defiance towards authority figures.
2	Clear evidence of oppositional and/or defiant behavior towards authority figures, which is currently interfering with the child’s functioning in at least one life domain. Behavior is persistent and caregiver’s attempts to change behavior have failed.
3	Clear evidence of a dangerous level of oppositional behavior involving the threat of physical harm to others or problems in more than one life domain that is resulting in interference with child’s social and emotional development.

	ADJUSTMENT TO TRAUMA <i>Please rate based on the past 30 days</i>
0	No evidence of adjustment to trauma.
1	The child has experienced a traumatic event and is not demonstrating symptoms or there are mild changes in the child’s behavior that are controlled by caregivers.
2	Clear evidence of adjustment problems associated with traumatic life event/s. Adjustment is interfering with child’s functioning in at least one life domain. Infants may have developmental regression, and/or eating and sleeping disturbance. Older children may have all of the above as well as behavioral symptoms, tantrums and withdrawn behavior.
3	Clear evidence of debilitating level of trauma symptoms that makes it virtually impossible for the child to function in any life domain.

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CHILD RISK FACTORS

BIRTH WEIGHT	
0	Child is within normal range for weight and has been since birth. A child 5.5 pounds or over would be rated here.
1	Child was born under weight but is now within normal range or child is slightly beneath normal range. A child with a birth weight of between 3.3 pounds and 5.5 pounds would be rated here.
2	Child is considerably under weight to the point of presenting a developmental risk to the child. A child with a birth weight of 2.2 pounds to 3.3 pounds would be rated here.
3	Child is extremely under weight to the point of the child’s life being threatened. A child with a birth weight of less than 2.2 pounds would be rated here.

PICA <i>Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days</i> Child must be older than 18 months to rate this item	
0	No evidence that the child eats unusual or dangerous materials.
1	Child has a history of eating unusual or dangerous materials but has not done so in the last 30 days.
2	Child has eaten unusual or dangerous materials consistent with a diagnosis of Pica in the last 30 days.
3	Child has become physically ill during the past 30 days by eating dangerous materials.

PRENATAL CARE	
0	Child’s biological mother received adequate prenatal care that began in the first trimester. Child’s mother did not experience any pregnancy related illnesses.
1	Child’s biological mother had some short-comings in prenatal care, or had a mild form of a pregnancy related illness.
2	Child’s biological mother received poor prenatal care, initiated only in the last trimester or had a moderate form of a pregnancy related illness.
3	Child’s biological mother had no prenatal care or had a severe pregnancy related illness.

LABOR AND DELIVERY	
0	Child and biological mother had normal labor and delivery.
1	Child or mother had some mild problems during delivery, but child does not appear affected by problems.
2	Child or mother had problems during delivery that resulted in temporary functional difficulties for the child or mother.
3	Child had severe problems during delivery that have resulted in long term implications for development.

SUBSTANCE EXPOSURE	
0	Child had no in utero exposure to alcohol or drugs, and there is no current exposure in the home.
1	Child had either mild in utero exposure or there is current alcohol and/or drug use in the home.
2	Child was exposed to significant alcohol or drugs in utero. Any ingestion of illegal drugs during pregnancy or significant use of alcohol or tobacco, would be rated here.
3	Child was exposed to alcohol or drugs in utero and continues to be exposed in the home.

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	PARENT OR SIBLING PROBLEMS
0	The child’s parents have no developmental disabilities. The child has no siblings, or existing siblings are not experiencing any developmental or behavioral problems.
1	The child’s parents have no developmental disabilities. The child has siblings who are experiencing some mild developmental or behavioral problems. It may be that the child has at least one healthy sibling.
2	The child’s parents have no developmental disabilities. The child has a sibling who is experiencing a significant developmental or behavioral problem.
3	One or both of the child’s parents have been diagnosed with a developmental disability, or the child has multiple siblings who are experiencing significant developmental or behavioral problems.

	MATERNAL AVAILABILITY: <i>This dimension addresses the primary caretakers’ emotional and physical availability to the child in the weeks immediately following the birth. Rate maternal availability up until 12 weeks post partum.</i>
0	The child’s mother/primary caretaker was emotionally and physically available to the child in the weeks following the birth.
1	The primary caretaker experienced some minor or transient stressors which made her slightly less available to the child.
2	The primary caregiver experienced a moderate level of stress sufficient to make him/her significantly less emotionally and physically available to the child in the weeks following the birth.
3	The primary caregiver was unavailable to the child to such an extent that the child’s emotional or physical well being was severely compromised.

	ABUSE/NEGLECT <i>Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days</i>
0	No evidence nor does the caregiver have any history of abuse/neglect.
1	No evidence of abuse/neglect, parent has received treatment to address this behavior.
2	No evidence of abuse or neglect. Parent has history of this behavior without treatment.
3	Evidence of current abuse/neglect.

***All referrants are legally required to report suspected abuse/neglect to DCS.**

CHILD RISK BEHAVIORS

	SELF HARM <i>Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days</i>
0	No evidence
1	Mild level of self harm behavior or history of self harm.
2	Moderate level of self harm behavior such as head banging that can not be impacted by caregiver and interferes with child’s functioning.
3	Severe level of self harm behavior that puts the child’s safety and well being at risk.

	AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR <i>Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days</i>
0	No evidence of aggressive behavior towards people or animals.
1	There is either a history of aggressive behavior towards people or animals or mild concerns in this area that have not yet interfered with functioning.
2	There is clear evidence of aggressive behavior towards animals or others. Behavior is persistent, and caregiver’s attempts to change behavior have not been successful. Help is needed.
3	The child has significant challenges in this area that is characterized as a dangerous level of aggressive behavior that involves harm to animals or others. Caregivers have difficulty managing this behavior.

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	SOCIAL BEHAVIOR <i>Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days</i> The child should be 3 years of age or older to rate this item.
0	No evidence of problematic social behavior. Child does not engage in behavior that forces adults to sanction him/her.
1	Mild level of problematic social behavior. This might include occasional inappropriate social behavior that forces adults to sanction the child. Infrequent inappropriate comments to strangers or unusual behavior in social settings might be included in this level.
2	Moderate level of problematic social behavior. Social behavior is causing problems in the child’s life. Child may be intentionally getting in trouble in school or at home.
3	Severe level of problematic social behavior. This level would be indicated by frequent serious social behavior that forces adults to seriously and/or repeatedly sanction the child. Social behaviors are sufficiently severe that they place the child at risk of significant sanctions (e.g. expulsion, removal from the community)

CAREGIVER NEEDS & STRENGTHS

	PHYSICAL <i>Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days</i>
0	Caregiver is generally healthy.
1	Caregiver is in recovery from medical/physical problems.
2	Caregiver has medical/physical problems that interfere with their capacity to parent.
3	Caregiver has medical/physical problems that make it impossible for them to parent at this time.

	MENTAL HEALTH <i>Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days</i>
0	Caregiver has no mental health needs.
1	Caregiver is in recovery from mental health difficulties.
2	Caregiver has some mental health difficulties that interfere with their capacity to parent.
3	Caregiver has mental health difficulties that make it impossible for them to parent at this time.

	SUBSTANCE USE <i>Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days</i>
0	Caregiver has no substance use needs.
1	Caregiver is in recovery from substance use difficulties.
2	Caregiver has some substance use difficulties that interfere with their capacity to parent.
3	Caregiver has substance use difficulties that make it impossible for them to parent at this time.

	DEVELOPMENTAL <i>Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days</i>
0	Caregiver has no developmental needs.
1	Caregiver has developmental challenges but they do not currently interfere with parenting.
2	Caregiver has developmental challenges that interfere with their capacity to parent.
3	Caregiver has severe developmental challenges that make it impossible for them to parent at this time.

	SAFETY <i>Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days</i>
0	Household is safe and secure. Child is at no risk from others.
1	Household is safe but concerns exist about the safety of the child in his/her neighborhood.
2	Child is in some danger from one or more individuals who have access to the household.
3	Child is in immediate danger from one or more individuals with unsupervised access.

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	SUPERVISION <i>Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days</i>
0	Caregiver has good monitoring and discipline skills.
1	Caregiver provides generally adequate supervision. May need occasional help or technical assistance.
2	Caregiver reports difficulties monitoring and/or disciplining child. Caregiver needs assistance to improve supervision skills.
3	Caregiver is unable to monitor or discipline the child. Caregiver requires immediate and continuing assistance. Child is at risk of harm to self due to absence of supervision.

	INVOLVEMENT <i>Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days</i>
0	Caregiver is able to act as an effective advocate for child.
1	Caregiver has history of seeking help for child. Caregiver is open to receiving support, education, and information.
2	Caregiver does not wish to participate in services and/or interventions intended to assist child.
3	Caregiver wishes for child to be removed from their care.

	KNOWLEDGE <i>Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days</i>
0	Caregiver is knowledgeable about the child’s needs and strengths.
1	Caregiver is generally knowledgeable about the child but may require additional information to improve their capacity to parent.
2	Caregiver has clear need for information to improve how knowledgeable they are about the child. Current lack of information is interfering with their ability to parent.
3	Caregiver has knowledge problems that place the child at risk of significant negative outcomes.

	ORGANIZATION <i>Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days</i>
0	Caregiver is well organized and efficient.
1	Caregiver has minimal difficulties with organizing and maintaining household to support needed services. For example, may be forgetful about appointments or occasionally fails to return case/care manager calls.
2	Caregiver has moderate difficulty organizing and maintaining household to support needed services.
3	Caregiver is unable to organize household to support needed services.

	EMPATHY FOR CHILD <i>Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days</i>
0	Caregiver is strong in his/her capacity to understand how the child is feeling and consistently demonstrates this in interactions with the child.
1	Caregiver has the ability to understand how the child is feeling in most situations and is able to demonstrate support for the child in this area most of the time.
2	Caregiver is only able to be empathetic toward the child in some situations and at times the lack of empathy interferes with the child’s growth and development.
3	Caregiver shows no empathy for the child in most situations especially when the child is distressed. Caregiver’s lack of empathy is impeding the child’s development.

	SOCIAL RESOURCES <i>Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days</i>
0	Caregiver has significant family and friend social network that actively helps with raising the child (e.g., child rearing).
1	Caregiver has some family or friend social network that actively helps with raising the child (e.g., child rearing).
2	Caregiver has some family or friend social network that may be able to help with raising the child (e.g., child rearing).
3	Caregiver has no family or social network that may be able to help with raising the child (e.g., child rearing).

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	RESIDENTIAL STABILITY <i>Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days</i>
0	Caregiver has stable housing for the foreseeable future.
1	Caregiver has relatively stable housing but either has moved in the past three months or there are indications of housing problems that might force them to move in the next three months.
2	Caregiver has moved multiple times in the past year. Housing is unstable.
3	Caregiver has experienced periods of homelessness in the past six months.

	ACCESSIBILITY TO CHILD CARE SERVICES <i>Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days</i>
0	Caregiver has access to sufficient child care services.
1	Caregiver has limited access to child care services. Needs are met minimally by existing, available services.
2	Caregiver has limited access or access to limited child care services. Current services do not meet the caregiver’s needs.
3	Caregiver has no access to child care services.

	FAMILY STRESS <i>Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days</i>
0	Caregiver able to manage the stress of child/children’s needs..
1	Caregiver has some problems managing the stress of child/children’s needs.
2	Caregiver has notable problems managing the stress of child/children’s needs. This stress interferes with their capacity to give care.
3	Caregiver is unable to manage the stress associated with child/children’s needs. This stress prevents caregiver from parenting.

	MARITAL/PARTNER VIOLENCE IN THE HOME - <i>This rating describes the degree of difficulty or conflict in the parent/caregiver’s relationship and the impact on parenting and childcare.</i>
0	Parent/caregiver(s) appear to be functioning adequately. There is no evidence of notable conflict in the parenting relationship. Disagreements are handled in an atmosphere of mutual respect and equal power.
1	Mild to moderate level of family problems including marital difficulties and partner arguments. Parent/caregivers are generally able to keep arguments to a minimum when child is present. Occasional difficulties in conflict resolution or use of power and control by one partner over another.
2	Significant level of caregiver difficulties including frequent arguments that often escalate to verbal aggression, the use of verbal aggression by one partner to control the other or significant destruction of property. Child often witnesses these arguments between caregivers, the use of verbal aggression by one partner to control the other or significant destruction of property.
3	Profound level of caregiver or marital violence that often escalates to the use of physical aggression by one partner to control the other. These episodes may exacerbate child’s difficulties or put the child at greater risk.