

# ND Safety Framework Practice Model

## Assessing Adult Functioning & Parenting Initially and Ongoing

ADULT FUNCTIONING Relevant Areas of Assessment	
<b>Behavioral Patterns</b>	Substance usage; substance misuse; dependency
	Self-Control; impulsivity; aggression; violence
	Relationship/ interaction with others; social isolation
	Communication
	Flexibility
	Adherence to social norms
<b>Emotional Patterns</b>	Coping, stress management, stressors unmanageable
	Emotional control
	Stability
	Mental Health
<b>Cognitive Patterns</b>	Problem solving
	Judgment & decision making
	Reality orientation
	Thought processing
	Cognitive functioning

VS.

PARENTING Relevant Areas of Assessment	
<b>Parenting Style</b>	Source of parenting style
	Expectations
	Consistency in parenting
	Tendency toward positive parenting
	Control in parenting role
<b>Feelings &amp; Perceptions About Parenting</b>	Reasons for being a parent
	Degree of satisfaction in a caregiving role
	Motivated as a parent
<b>History of Parenting</b>	Degree of satisfaction in a caregiving role
	Parenting successes
	Perceived parenting challenges, struggles, or failures
<b>Perceptions of Children</b>	History of protective behavior
	Viewpoint of child & influence on parenting practice
<b>Emotional Protective Capacities</b>	Empathetic
	Nurturing
	Sensitivity to child
	Demonstrated attachment & bonding
	Aligned & supportive of child
<b>Behavioral Protective Capacities</b>	Sets needs aside in favor of child
	Responsive
	Provides basic care
	Acts on child strengths/limitations/needs
	Protectiveness
<b>Cognitive Protective Capacities</b>	Parenting skill
	Recognition of child's needs
	Adequacy of parenting knowledge
<b>Cognitive Protective Capacities</b>	Understands child strengths/limitations/ needs

Where Do I Document My Assessment of Adult Functioning and Parenting?	
<b>CPSA</b>	Adult Functioning Factor and Parenting Factor
<b>PCFA</b>	SECTION II: Discovery Stage Summary – Enhanced & Diminished Parent/Caregiver Protective Capacities sections
<b>PCPA</b>	SECTION III: Assessing Implementation of the Case Plan

## ADULT FUNCTIONING – Potential Questions

### Parent/Caregiver

Tell me about yourself. How have things been going for you? (*allow them to vent*)

Have you been under stress? What leads to / triggers your stress (work, legal, financial, children, school)?

How often do you get the opportunity to be with your friends? Who are your friends and what do you like to do together?

How do you and your partner resolve conflict? How do you and your partner manage the income and household tasks?

Any prior hospitalizations? What for / when / where?

What is your family's daily routine? What is the best and the most challenging part of your day and why?

Tell me about the family you grew up in. What are some your fond memories? Hurtful memories? What were the family rules? What occurred when you got into trouble? How were you disciplined? What did your family do for fun together? Were you exposed to violence, substance abuse as a child? If so, how did you cope? How often do you see your parents, siblings, relatives?

How would you rate your satisfaction with how things are going for you now? (1-10) What would make it better? When things are going well, what does it look like? When things are not going as planned, how do you manage or what do you do? Tell me about a time...

Are you currently taking / using any prescribed or illicit drugs / medications? (*type, reason, frequency, effects on behavior*)

What do you like to do for fun? Are you looking forward to any upcoming celebrations, gatherings, vacations, etc.? Are there any barriers preventing you from attending? Explain...

When was your last drink? What and when do you prefer to drink? How many drinks do you have and how often? Describe any problems associated with alcohol / substance use.

Have you ever been given a mental health diagnosis? When / Where / Who gave you this diagnosis? When did you last receive mental health services? Where? Have the services been helpful? In what way?

Do you belong to any groups, clubs, organizations, religious affiliations? (*assesses responsibilities, support, effort, belonging*)

### Collaterals

How does [caregiver] react to stressful situations? Explain / describe a time...

To your knowledge, does the caregiver have a substance use problem? Are they engaging in illegal activity? Explain...

Does [caregiver] have any uncontrolled behaviors? (*substance use, gambling, pornography, violent tendencies, outbursts, impulsive spending*) Do the behaviors threaten child safety? How / when?

Does [caregiver] appear depressed, hopeless? Explain...

How is [caregiver] relationship with others in the home? How would you describe [caregiver's] relationship with their partner and children? (*dependency, supportive, controlling, chaotic, powerless*)

Does [caregiver] have any serious medical issues, mental health diagnosis, past trauma, and/or cognitive delays that impair their abilities? Do these impact child safety? How / when?

Does [caregiver] appear to be passive and allow others to persuade them to engage in unproductive activities? Do they rush into action without thinking about the consequences of their actions or behaviors? Explain...

Is [caregiver] isolated from others, what leads you to this conclusion?

Does [caregiver] engage in behaviors outside of the home that may endanger the safety of those in the home? (*gang activities, selling drugs, prostitution, allowing dangerous people in the home*) Explain...

## PARENTING – Potential Questions

### Parent/Caregiver

Tell me about your children. Are any of your children particularly challenging? Describe a recent time that you had to overcome a challenge with one of your children.

What is the best thing about being a parent? Do you enjoy being a parent? Did you plan on being a parent? What is the most satisfying part about being a parent? What is the hardest part about being a parent?

Do your children have rules or chores / expectations? *Ask for every current developmental age: Holding their bottle, toilet training, supervision, childcare, completing household tasks, schoolwork, curfew, cyber-utilization rules, driving, alcohol and drugs.* What happens if these rules are broken? Who is "in charge"?

How do you feel things are going for you as a parent, are things going as you envisioned? Do you feel being a parent is holding you back on your plans? Have you ever felt as though your child is trying to punish you? (*explore*)

What activities does your family do together; when was the last time you played with (*child's name*)?

How is affection, compassion, empathy, love shown to each other at your home?

Tell me about a time when you had to "spring into action" to protect your child? What did you do? How did you know your child was in danger and would you do anything different next time?

### Collaterals

Tell me about [caregiver] and activities they enjoy doing with their children. Have you witnessed the caregiver play / interact with their children? Describe...

Does [caregiver] seem happy / satisfied about being a parent? Describe...

Are you ever concerned about [caregiver's] mental health? (*depression, stability, alertness*) Describe...

Does [caregiver] prioritize their child's needs ahead of their own? Describe...

Does [caregiver] understand and follow through in meeting child's basic needs? (*food, shelter, clothing, supervision*)

Does [caregiver] understand the children's strengths and limitations? Does [caregiver] expect too much from the child? Do these threaten child safety? Explain...

Have you ever been concerned about [caregiver's] ability to keep their children safe? Describe a time... Is [caregiver] protective of their child? What leads you to that opinion? Has [caregiver] expressed concerns with [the other caregiver's] parenting practices? (*ability to provide for the child's basic needs and keep the children safe*) Describe...

How does [caregiver] show their love, empathy and affection to the children? Do you think [caregiver] loves their child? What leads you to that opinion?

Have you witnessed [caregiver] become frustrated or upset with the child? What did that look like? Describe [caregiver's] usual disciplinary practices / family rules. Does one caregiver have primary disciplinary enforcement? What does that look like?

## CHILDREN – Potential Questions to Assess ADULT FUNCTIONING & PARENTING

Who lives in the home with you? Tell me about your mom / dad / brothers / sisters. How do you all get along? What kind of things do you do together?

Tell me about your parent's friends. Do they come to the home? Do you like your parent's friends? (*explore*)

Tell me about a recent time when you had fun with your mom / dad. Do you have any upcoming family plans?

Tell me about your typical day. Who wakes you up and takes you to school / activities? Do you have dinner as a family? Who prepares supper? Who helps with homework? Etc...

Are there times when you're scared because of the people or situations (things breaking, fights) in your home? (*explore*) What do you do when you scared? Who helps you when you are scared?

When you want to do something or need something, who do you turn to first and why?

When your parents are not agreeing with each other or are unhappy with each other how do you know? What does it look like? What do you see and hear?