



Welcome to today's webinar!
Florida's MIECHV Initiative presents

Home Visitor Safety

Part 2
March 29, 2017
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

Panelists

				
Christine Chiricos, PhD Florida State University	Terry Hoover, RN, PhD Florida State University	Jill Little, MS Young Parent's Project Consultant	Julie May McDougal, LCSW FSU Early Head Start Director	Colleen Williams, LCSW FSU Early Head Start Home Based Services Coordinator & Infant Mental Health Consultant

The audio will be coming through your computer, so please make sure that your volume is turned up.
When you join the webinar you will automatically be muted by the webinar organizer.



Think **Safety** before you go!

- Develop a **daily schedule** & call if major changes occur.
- Schedule **check-in times** with office.
- **Assess risks** before the visit.
- On the very first visit to a home, consider **bringing a coworker**.
- **Remain on cell phone** talking to colleague while entering a home to assess situation.

Boyfriend Problems

During a home visit, Margarita's boyfriend comes home. He glares at you and paces around the room. When you explain who you are and why you are visiting, he yells. He begins cursing and gesturing, but stays away from you.



Self-Defense Training

Verbal Self-Defense

- Verbal De-escalation Techniques
- Communication Skills for Difficult Conversations

Physical Self-Defense Skills

Physical defense is always the last resort!



Responding to Aggression

- Leave as quickly as possible.
- Try to react and respond to the person in a calm but firm manner.
- Say "It looks like this is not a good time for a visit" or "I will come back at a better time."
- Try to keep a barrier, like a table, between you and aggressor.



Unfriend?



Molly has been visiting with Lakeyta since she became pregnant six months ago. Recently Molly accepted Lakeyta's friend request on Facebook. Lakeyta is now sharing personal information that is hard for Molly not to mention when she is discussing related topics on visits.

Boundary Considerations

Boundaries set the tone for the professional relationship.

1. What is reasonable & acceptable behavior?
2. What tools/processes does your program build in to help you set & maintain boundaries?
3. What are your triggers?



Poll 1

Have you ever made a visit where you suspected someone in the home was high?



Environment Signs of Potential Drug Use

Drug paraphernalia such as:

- Glass pipes
- Rolling papers
- Little plastic baggies



Unusual supply of:

- Cold meds or requests for meds
- Denatured alcohol; hydrogen peroxide
- Lye, antifreeze, propane fuel
- Solvents, paint thinners, fingernail polish remover
- Pool chemicals, pesticides
- Coffee filters
- Pillow cases or sheets stained red
- Blenders, jars, batteries
- Alcohol, ether, or heavy propane odors

Dealing with Substance Use

- Talk clearly and directly in a non-threatening manner.
- Keep a safe distance.
- If a member of the household is impaired, ask to move your visit outside or reschedule if necessary.
- If client appears to be under the influence, reschedule.
- Talk with your supervisor and discuss your concerns.



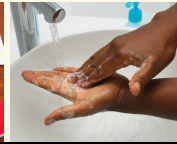
Close Contact

Valerie just returned from a visit and received a phone call from Mom who states that 3-year-old Sarah has scabies. What should Valerie do?



Disease & Health Concerns

- Common contagious health concerns include: lice, scabies, bedbugs, pink eye, staph infections, stomach viruses.
- Look for a safe public place to wash your hands. Carry hand sanitizer!
- Ask how everyone is feeling at the start of visit and then decide if it's safe for you to proceed.
- Do not take mouthed toys from one home to another without disinfecting them.
- Know your agency health procedures.



Poll 2

Have you ever made a visit when you were hesitant to sit down because of bugs?



Bugs, Bugs, Bugs!



- Avoid placing any items on upholstered furniture or bedding.
- Do not sit on cloth-covered furniture or bedding.
- Bring in only items necessary for the visit.
- Ask if there are any known infestations or treatments for pests including bed bugs.
- Keep a second pair of shoes and another jacket in your car.
- Keep your car clean of clutter; vacuum weekly; and monitor for infestation.
- Keep wet wipes handy.



Bed Bug Guidelines for Social Service Providers Who Conduct Home Visits. The University of Minnesota.

Oh No Bedbugs!

- Perform a self-inspection for pests immediately after leaving and before entering another home or vehicle.
- When you arrive home remove your clothing, in an attached garage or just inside the entry door.
- Immediately place clothes in a plastic bag that can be tightly closed via a knot or twist tie.
- Wash contaminated clothing in hot, soapy water and dry in a dryer using the highest heat setting that the fabric can safely withstand.



Bed Bug Guidelines for Social Service Providers Who Conduct Home Visits. The University of Minnesota.

Thank you!



Recording of this webinar found at: <http://www.cpeip.fsu.edu/webinars/>

References

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