

Pre-Screen Interview Guide | Community Assessment Tool

YOUTH NAME: _____ DATE: _____

INTERVIEWER NAME: _____ JOB TITLE: _____

- Prior to conducting the initial interview with the youth, review all available documentation.
- These are sample statements. You do not need to read all statements verbatim.

INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

1. Introduce yourself and ask youth how s/he is doing. Explain that the purpose is to better understand the youth so that their time on supervision can be beneficial to him/her and help him/her reduce his/her risk of getting in trouble again.
2. "Because this kind of assessment is so important we will rely upon multiple sources of information (e.g., previous records, contacts with others such as teachers and employers, etc.)."
3. "If you'd like, the next time we meet, I can go over your results and give you some feedback about what it says."
4. "I will be taking a few notes now and then, so I can remember things better. If something isn't entirely clear at any point, please stop me and ask questions."
5. "Do you have any questions before we get started?"

REMINDERS

Introduce yourself

Ask youth how they are doing and **REFLECT**

Remember to explain the assessment in general and in positive terms and in a way that the youth understands.

Domain 1: Record of Referrals

<p>LEAD-IN/PROBES Why don't we start by talking about your experience with the justice system, since that's why you are here at _____? <i>(insert name of the location)</i></p>	<p>REMINDERS Be sure to use OARS: O=Open Ended Questions A=Affirmations R=Reflections S=Summarizations *REFLECT</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tell me about the most recent arrest. • Tell me more about what happened. • Tell me about the people you were with. • What time was it? • What were you thinking at the time? • What were you feeling? • How did your parent(s) respond? • What happened as a result of the arrest? • How did it affect you? • How did it affect your family/friends? • Who else was affected and how did it affect them? • What do you think about it now? • How do you feel about what happened? • Would you do anything different if the same situation occurred again? 	<p>What?</p>
	<p>Who?</p>
	<p>When?</p>
	<p>Thoughts?</p>
	<p>Feelings?</p>
	<p>Assessing family relationships</p>
	<p>Consequential thinking</p>
	<p>Assessing attitudes/ empathy</p>
	<p>Assessing skills-- consequential thinking, problem solving</p>

Domain 1: *Out of State or Adult Charges*

THIS SECTION IS USED FOR YOUTH WHO HAVE LIVED IN ANOTHER STATE AND/OR MAY HAVE BEEN CHARGED WITH OFFENSES NOT CAPTURED IN JJIS

- Did you ever get in trouble when you lived in _____(state)?
- Tell me more about what happened?

WE NEED TO CAPTURE INFORMATION ON:

- **CASES DISPOSED OR SENTENCED TO** diversion, adjudication withheld, adjudication, deferred prosecution or referral to adult court (regardless of whether successfully completed).
- **PENDING CHARGES**
- Once a charge is dropped or no longer meets the above criteria, it should be deleted.

Domain 3: School

PROBING QUESTIONS AND NOTES

- Now, I'd like to talk to you about your experiences with school.
- So, tell me about your current school?
- Do you like school more or less than you did in the past?
- Tell me about any problems you've had with school teachers or other students. Have you been suspended or expelled from school this term? What happened?
- What kinds of grades do you get in school? Are you failing any classes?

ITEM CHECKLIST

*REFLECT & SUMMARIZE

1. Current Enrollment _____
2. Conduct _____
3. Attendance _____
4. GPA/Grades _____

NOTES:

Domain 6: Relationships

PROBING QUESTIONS AND NOTES

- I would like to get a better sense of people you spend time with. Can you describe your friends? Who do you spend most of your free time with and how do you spend it?
- Are you or any of your friends associated or in a gang?
- Are these old friends or new friends?
- Do you hang out with your old friends?
- What do you like about your friends?
- What do your parents think about your friends?

ITEM CHECKLIST

*REFLECT

1. History of friends _____
2. Current friends _____

NOTES:

Domain 7: Family

PROBING QUESTIONS AND NOTES	ITEM CHECKLIST
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Let's talk about your family. Tell me about them.• Where are the places you have lived?• Tell me about your parents.• Siblings?• Have you ever run away from home or been kicked out?• Have you been involved with DCF or been placed with a caretaker or foster parent outside of your home?• Has anyone in your family ever been in trouble with the law?• Do you feel that your family supports you in the way you need them? Do they help you to be better?• Who in your family can you talk to easily or feel close to? Mom, dad, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, etc.• How well do you get along with your parents and your siblings? What about your parents with each other?• Do you have a curfew or rules at home? Do you obey your parent's rules? Do you get disciplined?	<p>*REFLECT</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Run away _____2. Lost a parent _____3. Historical family jail/ imprisonment _____4. Current family jail/ imprisonment _____5. Problem history of parents _____6. Problem history of siblings _____7. Support _____8. Feels close to _____9. Conflict _____10. Authority _____11. DCF _____ <p>NOTES:</p>

Domain 8: Alcohol and Drugs

<p>PROBING QUESTIONS AND NOTES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tell me about your experience with alcohol? When did you first drink or get a little tipsy what happened after that?• What about any drug use? <p>***Only probe further for youth who have used***</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can you explain how drugs or alcohol have interfered with any aspect of your life (education, family, health problems, criminal behavior)?• How is your current use of drugs and alcohol any different now than prior to six months ago? (Current use of drugs and/or alcohol)• Have you ever been drinking or using when you got in trouble?• Do your parents or friends know about your use? What do they think?	<p>ITEM CHECKLIST *REFLECT</p> <p>1. Alcohol use _____</p> <p>2. Drug use _____</p> <p>NOTES:</p>
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Domain 9: Trauma and Mental Health

PROBING QUESTIONS AND NOTES

- Tell me about anything bad or terrifying that has happened to you or that you've seen happen to someone else.
- Has anyone hurt you or touched you in a way that made you uncomfortable? Tell me about that.
- Have you always been taken care of and given enough to eat? Have you ever felt neglected?
- What's it like when you have trouble controlling your feelings? Are you in a bad mood or angry a lot?
- Do you get sad a lot, and does the sadness keep you from spending time with friends or other things that you enjoy?
- Have you ever seen a therapist or been diagnosed with any mental health issues?

ITEM CHECKLIST

*REFLECT

1. Abuse

2. Witnessing violence

3. Sex Abuse

4. Neglect

5. Anger

6. Depression/anxiety

NOTES:

Domain 10: Attitudes/ Behaviors

<p>PROBING QUESTIONS AND NOTES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why do you think there are rules and laws, and are they fair? • How do you feel when a teacher or other adult tells you to do something? • What happens if you have a disagreement with an adult? Does it ever result in a verbal altercation or physical violence? If so, tell me how that makes you feel? • Who is responsible for you being here with me today? • Would you do anything differently? 	<p>ITEM CHECKLIST *REFLECT</p> <p>1. Attitude toward law _____</p> <p>2. Accepts responsibility _____</p> <p>NOTES:</p>
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Domain 11: Aggression

<p>PROBING QUESTIONS AND NOTES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When do you believe it is appropriate to argue with someone? • When is physical aggression a good idea? 	<p>ITEM CHECKLIST *REFLECT</p> <p>1. Belief in physical aggression _____</p> <p>NOTES:</p>
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CLOSE-OUT OF THE INTERVIEW: Solicit questions, thank the interviewee for all their truthfulness and willingness. Ideally, while you review your notes, you can have the youth review their face sheet or other material that would be of interest to them. Then you can discuss any missing or unclear information with them.