

PROTECTIVE CAPACITY RESOURCE

Behavioral Protective Capacities	
The caregiver has a history of protecting.	<p>This refers to a person with many experiences and events in which he or she has demonstrated clear and reportable evidence of having been protective. Examples might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who've raised children (now older) with no evidence of maltreatment or exposure to danger. • People who've protected his or her children in demonstrative ways by separating them from danger; seeking assistance from others; or similar clear evidence. • Caregivers and other reliable people who can describe various events and experiences where protectiveness was evident.
The caregiver takes action.	<p>This refers to a person who is action-oriented as a human being, not just a caregiver.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who perform when necessary. • People who proceed with a course of action. • People who take necessary steps. • People who are expedient and timely in doing things. • People who discharge their duties.
The caregiver demonstrates impulse control.	<p>This refers to a person who is deliberate and careful; who acts in managed and self-controlled ways.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who do not act on their urges or desires. • People that do not behave as a result of outside stimulation. • People who avoid whimsical responses. • People who think before they act. • People who are playful.
The caregiver is physically able.	<p>This refers to people who are sufficiently healthy, mobile and strong.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who can chase down children. • People who can lift children. • People who are able to restrain children. • People with physical abilities to effectively deal with dangers like fires or physical threats.
The caregiver has/ demonstrates adequate skill to fulfill caregiving responsibilities.	<p>This refers to the possession and use of skills that are related to being protective.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who can feed, care for, supervise children according to their basic needs. • People who can handle, manage, oversee as related to protectiveness. • People who can cook, clean, maintain, guide, and shelter as related to protectiveness.
The caregiver possesses adequate energy.	<p>This refers to the personal sustenance necessary to be ready and on the job of being protective.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who are alert and focused. • People who can move; are on the move; ready to move; will move in a timely way. • People who are motivated and have the capacity to work and be active. • People express force and power in their action and activity. • People who are not lazy or lethargic. • People who are rested or able to overcome being tired.

The caregiver sets aside her/his needs in favor of a child.	<p>This refers to people who can delay gratifying their own needs, who accept their children's needs as a priority over their own.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who do for themselves after they've done for their children. • People who sacrifice for their children. • People who can wait to be satisfied. • People who seek ways to satisfy their children's needs as the priority.
The caregiver is adaptive as a caregiver.	<p>This refers to people who adjust and make the best of whatever caregiving situation occurs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who are flexible and adjustable. • People who accept things and can move with them. • People who are creative about caregiving. • People who come up with solutions and ways of behaving that may be new, needed and unfamiliar but more fitting.
The caregiver is assertive as a caregiver.	<p>This refers to being positive and persistent.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who are firm and convicted. • People who are self-confident and self-assured. • People who are secure with themselves and their ways. • People who are poised and certain of themselves. • People who are forceful and forward.
The caregiver uses resources necessary to meet the child's basic needs.	<p>This refers to knowing what is needed, getting it and using it to keep a child safe.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who get people to help them and their children. • People who use community public and private organizations. • People who will call on police or access the courts to help them. • People who use basic services such as food and shelter.
The caregiver supports the child.	<p>This refers to actual, observable sustaining, encouraging and maintaining a child's psychological, physical and social well-being.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who spend considerable time with a child filled with positive regard. • People who take action to assure that children are encouraged and reassured. • People who take an obvious stand on behalf of a child.
Cognitive Protective Capacities	
The caregiver plans and articulates a plan to protect the child.	<p>This refers to the thinking ability that is evidenced in a reasonable, well-thought-out plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who are realistic in their idea and arrangements about what is needed to protect a child. • People whose thinking and estimates of what dangers exist and what arrangement or actions are necessary to safeguard a child. • People who are aware and show a conscious focused process for thinking that results in an acceptable plan. • People whose awareness of the plan is best illustrated by their ability to explain it and reason out why it is sufficient.
The caregiver is aligned with the child.	<p>This refers to a mental state or an identity with a child.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who strongly think of themselves as closely related to or associated with a child. • People who think that they are highly connected to a child and therefore responsible for a child's well-being and safety. • People who consider their relationship with a child as the highest priority.
The caregiver has adequate knowledge to fulfill caregiving	<p>This refers to information and personal knowledge that is specific to caregiving that is associated with protection.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who know enough about child development to keep kids safe. • People who have information related to what is needed to keep a child safe.

responsibilities and tasks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who know how to provide basic care which assures that children are safe.
The caregiver is reality oriented; perceives reality accurately.	<p>This refers to mental awareness and accuracy about one’s surroundings; correct perceptions of what is happening; and the viability and appropriateness of responses to what is real and factual.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who describe life circumstances accurately. • People who recognize threatening situations and people. • People who do not deny reality or operate in unrealistic ways. • People who are alert to danger within persons and the environment. • People who are able to distinguish threats to child safety.
The caregiver has accurate perceptions of the child.	<p>This refers to seeing and understanding a child’s capabilities, needs and limitations correctly.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who know what children of certain age or with particular characteristics are capable of. • People who respect uniqueness in others. • People who see a child exactly as the child is and as others see the child. • People who recognize the child’s needs, strengths and limitations. People who can explain what a child requires, generally, for protection and why. • People who see and value the capabilities of a child and are sensitive to difficulties a child experiences. • People who appreciate uniqueness and difference. • People who are accepting and understanding.
The caregiver understands his/her protective role.	<p>This refers to awareness...knowing there are certain solely owned responsibilities and obligations that are specific to protecting a child.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who possess an internal sense and appreciation for their protective role. • People who can explain what the “protective role” means and involves and why it is so important. • People who recognize the accountability and stakes associated with the role. • People who value and believe it is his/her primary responsibility to protect the child.
The caregiver is self-aware as a caregiver.	<p>This refers to sensitivity to one’s thinking and actions and their effects on others – on a child.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who understand the cause – effect relationship between their own actions and results for their children • People who are open to who they are, to what they do, and to the effects of what they do. • People who think about themselves and judge the quality of their thoughts, emotions, and behavior. • People who see that the part of them that is a caregiver is unique and requires different things from them.
Emotional Protective Capacities	
The caregiver is able to meet own emotional needs.	<p>This refers to satisfying how one feels in reasonable, appropriate ways that are not dependent on or take advantage of others, in particular, children.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who use personal and social means for feeling well and happy that are acceptable, sensible, and practical. • People who employ mature, adult-like ways of satisfying their feelings and emotional needs. • People who understand and accept that their feelings and gratification of those feelings are separate from their child.

<p>The caregiver is emotionally able to intervene to protect the child.</p>	<p>This refers to mental health, emotional energy and emotional stability.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who are doing well enough emotionally that their needs and feelings don't immobilize them or reduce their ability to act promptly and appropriately. • People who are not consumed with their own feelings and anxieties. • People who are mentally alert, in touch with reality. • People who are motivated as a caregiver and with respect to protectiveness.
<p>The caregiver is resilient as a caregiver.</p>	<p>This refers to responsiveness and being able and ready to act promptly.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who recover quickly from setbacks or being upset. • People who spring into action. • People who can withstand. • People who are effective at coping as a caregiver.
<p>The caregiver is tolerant as a caregiver.</p>	<p>This refers to acceptance, allowing and understanding, and respect</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who can let things pass. • People who have a big picture attitude, who don't over react to mistakes and accidents. • People who value how others feel and what they think.
<p>The caregiver displays concern for the child and the child's experience and is intent on emotionally protecting the child.</p>	<p>This refers to a sensitivity to understand and feel some sense of responsibility for a child and what the child is going through in such a manner to compel one to comfort and reassure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who show compassion through sheltering and soothing a child • People who can calm, pacify and appease a child. • People who physically take action or provide physical responses that reassure a child, that generate security.
<p>The caregiver and child have a strong bond and the caregiver is clear that the number one priority is the well-being of the child.</p>	<p>This refers to a strong attachment that places a child's interest above all else.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who act on behalf of a child because of the closeness and identity the person feels for the child. • People who order their lives according to what is best for their children because of the special connection and attachment that exists between them. • People whose closeness with a child exceeds other relationships. • People who are properly attached to a child.
<p>The caregiver expresses love, empathy and sensitivity toward the child; experiences specific empathy with the child's perspective and feelings.</p>	<p>This refers to active affection, compassion, warmth, and sympathy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who fully relate to, can explain, and feel what a child feels, thinks and goes through. • People who relate to a child with expressed positive regard and feeling and physical touching. • People who are understanding of children and their life situation.