

Handout: 15 Risk Elements

1. Total prior reports for adults and children in the RAP family unit;
2. Any child in the RAP family unit was in the care or custody of any substitute caregivers (informally or formally) at any time prior to the current report date;
3. Child under one year old in RAP family unit at time of the current report, and/or new infant since report;
4. Current or recent history of housing with serious health or safety hazards; extreme overcrowding; unstable housing; or no housing;
5. Financial resources are mismanaged or limited to the degree that one or more basic family needs are intermittently or chronically unmet;
6. Caretaker has, and utilizes, reliable and constructive support and assistance from extended family friends, or neighbors;
7. Caretaker has been a victim or perpetrator of abusive or threatening incidents with partners or other adults in family/neighborhood;
8. Caretaker's alcohol use has had negative effects on child care, family relationships, jobs, or arrests, within the past two years;
9. Caretaker's drug use has had negative effects on child care, family relationships, jobs, or arrests, within the past two years.
10. Caretaker's behavior suggest mental health problems exist and/or caretaker has a diagnosed mental illness;
11. Caretaker has very limited cognitive skills;
12. Caretaker has a debilitating physical illness or physical disability;
13. Caretaker demonstrates developmentally appropriate expectations of all children;
14. Caretaker attends to needs of all children and prioritizes the children's needs above his/her own needs or desires;
15. Caretaker understands the seriousness of current or potential harm to the children, and is willing to address any areas of concern.

Source: Safety and Risk Assessment Resource Guide, NYC Administration for Children's Services, James Satterwhite Academy for Child Welfare Training (2013).