

Prevention Assessment Tool: Interview Guide

Youth Name: _____

Date: _____

Interviewer Name: _____

**Prior to conducting the initial interview with the youth, review all available collateral information.*

Items with three asterisks (*) before them should be corroborated with collateral sources if possible.*

INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT	REMINDERS
<p>“It’s nice to meet you. My name is _____. How are you doing today?</p> <p>The purpose of this interview is for me to get to know you better and learn a little about your experiences so that your time with us can be as beneficial for you as possible.</p> <p>This will also help us to find ways to better work with you to reduce the risk that you will get into any trouble in the future, and to help ensure you are successful.</p>	<p>Introduce yourself</p> <p>Ask the youth how he/she is doing and REFLECT</p>
<p>Because this kind of assessment is so important, we will rely on multiple sources of information (e.g., any prior arrest records, contacts with others such as teachers and employers, etc.).</p>	
<p>Just so you know, I will be taking a few notes now and then, so that I can remember what we talk about better. If something isn’t entirely clear at any point, please stop me and ask whatever questions you have.</p>	
<p>Do you have any questions before we get started?</p>	

DOMAIN 1: RECORD OF REFERRALS

LEAD-IN/PROBES	REMINDERS Use OARS to elicit information and allow the youth to elaborate O =Open Ended Questions A =Affirmations R =Reflections S =Summarizations
Let's start by talking about any previous experience you have with the juvenile justice system	
<p>*** Have you ever been charged with an offense by the police?</p> <p>If not, have you ever been there when a friend or family member was arrested?</p>	If no to both questions, skip to Domain 3
Tell me what that was about/like.	What?
Tell me some more about what happened.	
Tell me about the people you were with.	Who?
What time of day was it?	When?
What were you thinking at the time?	Assessing attitudes
What were you feeling?	Feelings?
How did your parent(s) respond?	Assessing family relationships
What happened as a result of the arrest?	Consequential thinking
How did it affect you?	Assessing attitudes/empathy
How did it affect your family/friends?	Assessing skill level
Who else was affected and how did it affect them?	Eliciting self-motivational statements
What do you think about it now?	Consequential thinking
How do you feel about what happened?	Feel about what happened?
Would you do anything different if the same situation that led to the arrest occurred again?	Problem solving

DOMAIN 3: SCHOOL

PROBES	REMINDERS
<p>Now, I'd like to talk to you about your experiences with school. So, tell me, are you currently enrolled in school? If so, how has school been going for you this year?</p> <p>*** Talk to me about your attendance at school this term.</p> <p>Tell me about any difficulties you've had with teachers this school term.</p> <p>Tell me about any difficulties you've had with other students this term.</p> <p>***Talk to me about the grades you get in school?</p> <p>***Are you failing any classes?</p> <p>***Tell me about any suspensions/expulsions from school in the most recent term. How many times have you been suspended in the most recent term?</p> <p>***If you are aware, do you have any special education needs, or have you had any diagnosis of a special education need?</p> <p>Tell me about anything you like about school.</p>	<p>Use OARS to allow youth to elaborate</p>
<p>NOTES:</p>	<p>ITEM CHECKLIST:</p> <p>Special Education need _____</p> <p>Current Enrollment _____</p> <p>Behavior/conduct _____</p> <p>Number of expulsions and suspensions _____</p> <p>Attendance _____</p> <p>Grades/GPA _____</p>

DOMAIN 4: USE OF FREE TIME

PROBES	REMINDERS: Use OARS!
How about telling me about what you like to do when you have some free time?	
What kinds of things do you like doing with your free time? What else? Who do you like to do that with? What about that do you like?	<u>Participate in (check all that apply):</u> None _____ Community/culture _____ Hobby group/club _____ Athletics _____ Religious/church group _____ Volunteer organization _____ Other _____
NOTES:	
How often do you participate in clubs, groups, churches, athletic groups, or activities?	
Now, talk to me about any clubs, groups, churches, athletic groups, or activities that you are interested in, that you don't currently participate in.	<u>Interested in (check all that apply):</u> None _____ Community/culture _____ Hobby group/club _____ Athletics _____ Religious/church group _____ Volunteer organization _____ Other _____
NOTES:	

DOMAIN 5: EMPLOYMENT

PROBES	REMINDERS
<p>Let's switch gears and talk about employment.</p> <p>Tell me about the kinds of jobs you have had.</p> <p>Are you working now?</p> <p>Are you currently looking for a job? Tell me how that is going and how you have been trying to get a job.</p> <p>What's the longest you've ever held a job? How did you get along with the people at work?</p> <p>What's the best part of the job? The worst part?</p> <p>Talk to me about the most important things you think it takes to keep a job.</p>	<p>Use OARS!</p>
<p>NOTES:</p>	

DOMAIN 6: RELATIONSHIPS

PROBE	REMINDERS
<p>I want to ask you about your relationships with various people in your life.</p> <p>What adults, other than your parents (or guardians), have really been there for you or supportive of you in the past?</p> <p>(If the youth has worked) Did you feel close to any adults at your job? How did you get along with other adults working there?</p> <p>Tell me about any teachers you get along with really well, and why you think that is.</p>	<p>Number of positive adult relationships _____</p>

<p>What was enjoyable about spending time with any of these positive adults in your life?</p>	
<p>LEAD-IN/RELATIONSHIP NETWORK PROBE</p>	<p>REMINDERS</p>
<p>I would like to get a better sense of what kind of friendships you have, and the people you spend time with.</p> <p>If you choose to use the friendship mapping exercise: I'm going to try and sketch a map of your main friends and companions and try to identify who all is in your network. If we put you in the very center, and expand out from there by including only people you hang-out with almost every day in the next circle, who would we put in the first circle – you can just tell me initials or nicknames if you like.</p> <p>You may choose not to use the friendship mapping exercise, but you still must ask the following:</p> <p>Tell me about your friends that you spend time with.</p> <p>What do you do with friends/groups of friends?</p> <p>What do you like best about friends/groups of friends?</p> <p>How often do you see your friends/groups of friends?</p> <p>Who makes the decisions about what you're going to do when you're with your friends/ each group of friends?</p> <p>If your friends had an idea to do something wrong, or to break a rule, would you go along with it?</p> <p>Do you have a significant other? Would you say your significant other is a positive influence on you and stays out of trouble or does he/she often get into trouble?</p>	<p>Summarize friendship network</p>
	<p>ITEM CHECKLIST:</p>
<p>NOTES:</p>	<p>Pro-social peers _____</p> <p>Antisocial peers _____</p>

Pro-Social

Friend



Acquaintance

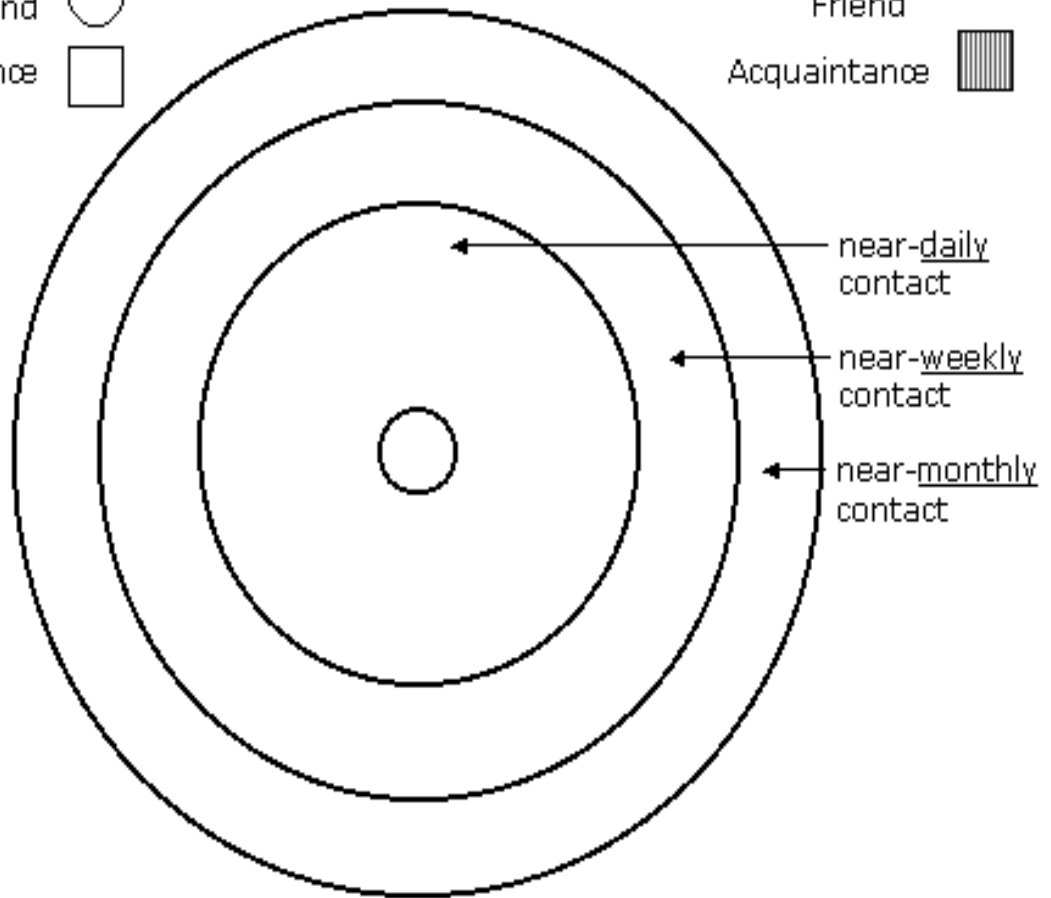


Pro-Criminal

Friend



Acquaintance



DOMAIN 7: FAMILY/LIVING ARRANGEMENT

PROBES	REMINDERS
<p>Let's talk about your home life or family. Tell me about the environment where you currently live.</p>	<p>ITEM CHECKLIST:</p>
<p>***Who are you currently living with and what is their relationship (parent, grandparent, sibling, etc.) to you?</p> <p>Tell me about your current living situation. Is your family currently homeless or living in a shelter? How long have you been living at your current location? Tell me about how often your family moves, and the reasons for the moves.</p> <p>What sorts of things does your family do together?</p> <p>Have any of the current household members ever been in jail or prison?</p> <p>Have any of your current household members had serious issues with alcohol? Who has had those difficulties?</p> <p>Have any of your current household members had serious issues with drugs ? Who has had those problems?</p> <p>Have any of your current household members had serious health complications? Who has had those problems?</p> <p>Do you know if any of your current household members has had serious issues related to mental health? Who has had those issues?</p> <p>Have any of your current household members had serious gaps in employment or had a hard time keeping a job? Which members?</p> <p>Who in your family can you easily talk to? Why that person?</p> <p>Tell me about how well you get along with your parents. What is it like when you and your parents disagree?</p> <p>Tell me about how well you get along with your siblings. What is it like when you and your siblings disagree?</p> <p>Do you have a curfew?</p> <p>Talk some about how well your parents know your friends.</p>	<p>Jail/prison history _____</p> <p>Parental problem history _____</p> <p>Sibling problem history _____</p> <p>Times run away _____</p> <p>Times kicked out _____</p> <p>Conflict at home _____</p> <p>Parental supervision _____</p> <p>Youth obeys parents _____</p>

<p>Who is there when you get home?</p> <p>Talk to me about how your parents feel if/when you get into trouble with the law or break important rules they have set.</p> <p>Have you ever run away from home? How many times? Have you ever been kicked out of the house? How many times? Talk to me about the last time that happened.</p> <p>Do you usually follow your parent's rules?</p> <p>When you go out, do your parents know who you will be with, where you are going, and when you will return?</p>	
<p>NOTES:</p>	

DOMAIN 8: ALCOHOL and DRUG

PROBES	REMINDERS
<p>Now I want to talk a little about your experience with drinking and drugs.</p>	
<p>Have you ever tried alcohol? <i>If yes, how many times/how frequently?</i></p>	<p>Use OARS!</p>
<p>Did you ever get a little tipsy or drunk? <i>If so, what happened after that?</i></p>	<p>Tobacco _____ Alcohol _____ Marijuana _____</p>
<p>How about drugs, have you ever tried any type of drug?</p>	<p>amphetamines _____</p>
<p><i>If yes to alcohol or drugs--I would like to try and map out how your substance use began and progressed, so let's start at the beginning and work our way up to the present.</i></p>	<p>cocaine _____ heroin _____ inhalants _____ barbiturates _____</p>
<p>Tell me about your experiences with using tobacco- this means cigarettes, black and milds, dip, chew, etc.</p>	<p>tranquilizers _____ hallucinogens _____ phencyclidine _____</p>
<p><i>If they admit to trying drugs or you suspect- go into the types:</i></p>	<p>opiates _____</p>
<p>Tell me about your experiences with drinking alcohol.</p>	<p>OTC _____</p>
<p>Tell me about your experiences with drinking alcohol.</p>	<p>other _____</p>
<p>Talk to me about your experiences with using marijuana (includes spice, k2)</p>	
<p>Have you ever tried anything else besides tobacco or marijuana? <i>If yes check in on a few on these—make sure it does not feel like a checklist or interrogation, only probe where you think makes sense.</i></p>	
<p>Explain any experiences you have with using amphetamines (meth/speed/uppers/ecstasy/Molly, Adderall)</p>	
<p>Tell me about your experiences with using cocaine.</p>	
<p>Tell me about your experiences with using heroin.</p>	
<p>Talk to me about your experiences with using inhalants (anything vaporized, glue, gas, huffing).</p>	
<p>Tell me about your experiences with using barbiturates (downers).</p>	
<p>Tell me about your experiences with using tranquilizers (valium/ketamine).</p>	
<p>Tell me about your experiences with using hallucinogens (LSD/acid/mushrooms/ghb).</p>	

<p>Tell me about your experiences with using phencyclidine (PCP/dust).</p> <p>Explain any experiences you have with using opiates (Demerol/codeine/oxycontin/Roxy).</p> <p>Tell me about your experiences with using over-the-counter (OTC) medications for the purpose of getting high (cough syrup/Sudafed).</p> <p>Tell me about your experiences with using any other drugs.</p> <p>Have you ever had to participate in a class or treatment about alcohol use? Are you currently participating in one of those classes?</p> <p>Have you ever had to participate in a class or treatment about drug use? Are you currently participating in one of those classes?</p>	
	ITEM CHECKLIST:
<p>What are some of the good things you get from your substance use?</p> <p>Does it take more drugs for you to get the same “high” as when you started using?</p> <p>What are some of the not-so-good things you get from substance use? Do you get sick? If so, explain the sickness.</p> <p>Has the use ever caused problems at home or in school? Talk to me about those problems and how they have affected you and your family.</p>	<p>Alcohol use _____</p> <p>Problems due to alcohol _____</p> <p>Drug use _____</p> <p>Problems due to drugs _____</p> <p>Treatment program history _____</p> <p>Current treatment program participation _____</p>
NOTES:	

DOMAIN 9: MENTAL HEALTH

PROBES:	REMINDERS
<p>It will be helpful to know a bit more about how you usually feel.</p> <p>Was there ever a time when you had trouble controlling your feelings? Tell me what that was like.</p> <p>What kind of difficulties or hurdles have you run into thus far? Tell me more about that.</p> <p>What's it like to feel out of control? Have you ever had troubles in any of these areas in the past? Have you had any troubles in any of these areas in the last six months? Give me a recent example if you can?</p> <p>Have you ever thought about hurting yourself?</p> <p>***Has an adult ever physically hurt you?</p> <p>Has anyone ever touched you in a way that made you feel uncomfortable?</p> <p>Has anything very bad or terrifying ever happened to you or have you seen happen to someone else? Does it ever cause you to have bad dreams or prolonged feelings about that event/s?</p> <p>Have you always been taken care of, and given enough to eat? Do you feel that your parents have always looked out for your safety? Why/why not?</p>	<p>Affirmations</p>
<p>NOTES:</p>	<p>ITEM CHECKLIST:</p> <p>Physical abuse _____</p> <p>Sexual abuse _____</p> <p>Neglect _____</p> <p>History of suicidal ideation _____</p> <p>Current suicidal ideation _____</p>

DOMAIN 10: ATTITUDES/BEHAVIORS

PROBES:	REMINDERS
<p>Now I want to get into what you think about things that may be going on in your life.</p> <p>Explain to me your thoughts on why there are rules and laws, and are they fair?</p> <p>Who is affected when you get into trouble?</p> <p>Tell me about how you feel when a teacher or other adult tells you to do something?</p> <p>What happens if you have a disagreement with an adult?</p> <p>How were you feeling the last time you broke a rule/law?</p> <p>Tell me about why you broke the rule/law?</p> <p>Talk to me about your belief in your ability to control your own behavior that leads to you breaking a rule.</p> <p><i>(Remember, even if this youth has never committed a crime, they can still share with you their general feelings on crime victims.)</i></p> <p>Tell me how you would describe a victim. What kinds of effects does a crime have on a victim?</p> <p>When you think about a victim, what do you think, and how do you feel?</p>	<p>Use OARS, especially Reflections</p>
<p>NOTES:</p>	<p>ITEM CHECKLIST:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impulsive _____ Believes he/she can control behavior _____ Empathy _____ Respect for authority _____ Rules apply to him/her _____ Accepts responsibility _____

DOMAIN 11: AGGRESSION

PROBES:	REMINDERS
<p>Let's talk about things that get you upset or mad.</p> <p>Tell me about how you view the intentions of other people toward you.</p> <p>What's it look like when you manage your anger the way you want to and what's it look like when your anger is hard to manage?</p> <p>Has there ever been a time when you have lost your temper? If so, tell me about a time when you have lost your temper. What kind of things might cause you to lose your temper?</p> <p>When have you had to resort to violence? In what kind of circumstances are you most likely to use violence? What is the worst violence you have seen or been involved in?</p> <p>When is hitting and or yelling at someone a good idea? How do you feel after you hit or yell at someone?</p> <p>Other probes:</p> <p>What's the worst thing you've done to anybody?</p> <p>To an animal?</p> <p>Have you ever set fires that could have got you in trouble?</p> <p>Threatened anyone?</p> <p>Violently destroyed property?</p> <p>What's the most dangerous weapon you have ever carried or held?</p>	
<p>NOTES:</p>	<p>ITEM CHECKLIST:</p> <p>Hostile view of intentions of others _____</p> <p>Believes physical aggression is appropriate _____</p> <p>Violent outbursts _____</p> <p>Using/threatening with a weapon _____</p> <p>Fire starting _____</p> <p>Violent destruction of property _____</p> <p>Animal Cruelty _____</p> <p>Sexual misconduct _____</p>

DOMAIN 12: SKILLS

PROBES:	REMINDERS
<p>Let's talk about some skills you may have and some goals you have.</p> <p>I would like to talk to you about the kinds of skills we acquire throughout our life in order to become a more disciplined person; sometimes we refer to these as self-control skills.</p> <p>Do you ever find yourself acting without thinking about what could happen or about the consequences those actions could bring? Explain to me how often you think you act without thinking about consequences.</p> <p>Would you not do something because you know you could get into trouble if you do it, or do you do it anyway and hope you will not get caught?</p> <p>Explain whether you think what happens to you in life is the result of your actions.</p> <p>Explain to me some goals you have set for your future.</p> <p>Do you see those goals as realistic, meaning you truly believe you can and will accomplish them?</p> <p>What are some goals that you have set and achieved? Tell me more about that.</p> <p>Explain how well you get along with most people.</p> <p>What are some early signs that you are beginning to have a problem with some person, place or thing?</p> <p>When you experience strong emotions like anger, fear or depression – what kinds of things do you do to manage and work through these feelings?</p> <p>Explain how you deal with situations that you don't like or are difficult.</p>	<p>Use OARS! Try to elicit further information from the youth.</p> <p>Use phrases such as: "Tell me more about that" "What was that like" "Can you give me some examples of that"</p>
	<p>ITEM CHECKLIST:</p>
<p>NOTES:</p>	<p>Consequential thinking _____</p> <p>Goal setting _____</p> <p>Problem-solving _____</p> <p>Dealing with others _____</p> <p>Dealing with difficult situations _____</p>

	Dealing with feelings	_____
	Impulse control	_____
	Controlling aggression	_____

CLOSE-OUT OF THE INTERVIEW:

Magic question:

- Where would you like to be in, let’s say, two years?
- If you had three wishes, what would they be?

“Please ask me any questions you have about anything we talked about today”

“Thank you taking time to talk to me. I appreciate your willingness and honesty talking about these topics. Let me know if you want to go over the results of your assessment later.”