

TRAINING PACKET PRE-WORK

In Mississippi, We Do

HOPE

WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU NEXT WEEK!



FOCUSED COURTS

MISSISSIPPI YOUTH COURTS 2021 Team Training and Development

APRIL 13, 2021
OXFORD CONFERENCE CENTER
102 ED PERRY BLVD
OXFORD, MS 38655

APRIL 14, 2021
CLYDE MUSE CENTER
515 COUNTRY PLACE PKWY
PEARL, MS 39208

APRIL 15, 2021
MICHAEL MEMORIAL BAPTIST
10553 JOHN CLARK ROAD
GULFPORT, MS 39503

AGENDA

8:00 am to 4:00 pm

08:00 – 08:45	Registration – Breakfast
08:45 – 09:00	Welcome Justice Dawn Beam and State Leaders
09:00 – 10:30	Introduction to Hope Theory Dr. Chan Hellman
10:30 – 10:45	Break
10:45 – 12:00	Enhancing, Finding and Modeling Hope Dr. Chan Hellman
12:00 – 12:50	Lunch
12:50 – 01:15	Box of HOPE: Measuring & Building Hope Judge John Hudson
01:15 – 01:45	Review of Case Scenario #1 Judge John Hudson & Dr. Chan Hellman
01:45– 02:00	Break
02:00 – 02:30	Case Scenario #2 & Review with Judge Hudson - Court Team Breakout Session
02:30 – 03:00	Review of Case Scenario #2 Judge John Hudson & Dr. Chan Hellman
03:00 – 03:45	Drafting and Submitting of County Plans Judge Hudson & County Court Teams
03:45 – 04:00	Concluding Remarks Justice Dawn Beam

What is YOUR Hope Score?

If you registered by 3/31/21 you should have received an email request to take a survey. When completed your hope score should show in a pop-up window.

All who take the survey will be entered into a drawing for a Hope Basket given away at the training!

THE ADULT HOPE SCALE

Directions: Read each sentence carefully. For each sentence, please think about how you are in most situations. Using the scale shown below, please select the number that best describes **YOU** and put that number in the blank provided. There are no right or wrong answers.



- _____ **1.** I can think of many ways to get out of a jam.
- _____ **2.** I energetically pursue my goals.
- _____ **3.** There are lots of ways around any problem.
- _____ **4.** I can think of many ways to get the things in life that are most important to me.
- _____ **5.** Even when others get discouraged, I know I can find a way to solve the problem.
- _____ **6.** My past experiences have prepared me well for my future.
- _____ **7.** I've been pretty successful in life.
- _____ **8.** I meet the goals that I set for myself.

Notes: The **Agency** subscale score is the sum of items 2, 6, 7 & 8; the **Pathways** subscale score is the sum of items 1, 3, 4 & 5. **Hope** is the sum of the four **Pathways** and four **Agency** items. Scores can range from a low of 8 to a high of 64.

Agency Score _____ (Add items 2,6, 7, and 8)

Pathways Score _____ (Add items 1,3,4, and 5)

Total Hope Score _____ (Agency Score + Pathways Score)

CASE SCENARIOS

The following pages include two case scenarios to be covered in the training.

**PLEASE READ
THROUGH THESE
BEFORE THE EVENT**

**and be prepared to work
through them with your
team in the training.**

Brian, Jennifer, and Tricia Case Study #1

(For Training Purposes Only)

Mother: Patricia, age 38 (Divorced from David)

Father: David, age 40 (Divorced from Patricia)

Children: Brian, age 16
Jennifer, age 8
Tricia, age 4

Background on Patricia and David:

Patricia grew up in Jackson, MS, and had a life she often told people was “nothing special.” When she had a little too much to drink, she did tell people she had been physically disciplined by her mother on multiple occasions which sometimes left marks which she found embarrassing when her friends at school noticed them. When she was 14, she had been molested by a teacher on one occasion. While the event was never disclosed, she had a hard time dealing with it and often found herself in the counselor’s office. Throughout most of her childhood she tried to shrink into the background because she was embarrassed that she did not have new clothes, electronics, or food. She had just wanted to escape from her life.

Patricia had married her childhood sweetheart, just like her parents, but was recently divorced. She had not seen her ex-husband, David, in nearly 4 years. He left the state and moved west after learning Patricia was pregnant with their third child. He had not provided any child support and she didn’t know where he was presently living. She loved her children but had struggled to find consistent or well-paying work over the past few years. She was presently employed as a home healthcare sitter which she enjoyed, but which was inconsistent and provided challenges with transportation and childcare.

David grew up in Pascagoula, MS, the oldest of three children, all boys. He excelled in school and sports. He had parents who loved and cared for him and were able to financially provide for whatever he needed. He graduated high school and obtained a scholarship to play football for the University of Southern Mississippi. He was majoring in business administration at the insistence of his father, but his real passion lay in architecture.

During his second year, he was seriously injured on the football field which ended his playing career. He struggled emotionally with accepting the injury and dropped out of college the next year. He had found some work doing landscaping and general construction, but money was always an issue. When he learned his now ex-wife was pregnant, he filed for divorce and left town. He kept meaning to call his son, but he could never find the time. He would call today.

Presenting Situation:

At school, Brian is seen as a loner. He has a hard time making friends and doesn't participate in the classroom or in athletic activities. He has a reputation among the teachers as being "difficult," primarily because of his erratic behavior. Sometimes he yells at people for no apparent reason.

Often, this behavior comes in the hour before lunch is served. He has been disciplined regularly for this behavior which doesn't seem to have an effect. Today, he was not in school. This was not the first time he had not arrived at school. Records showed he has been absent 12 days this term and today's absence resulted in a referral to Youth Court by a truancy officer.

Concurrently, multiple attempts were made by the school to reach Brian's mother to discuss Brian's absences and behavior. However, Patricia could not be reached right away. When she was contacted, Patricia stated she did not know Brian's location, but that she was worried for his safety and well-being after an unexplained event the previous evening. She had just received a call from a school attendance officer at her daughter Jennifer's school saying she, too, was not present today. She took the school's advice and reported Brian to law enforcement as a runaway. What she didn't tell the SAO was that Jennifer was sick at home alone.

When school officials asked Patricia to come to the school for a conference about Brian, she declined saying that she did not have any personal transportation and was required to stay with her current client at work until 6:00 tonight. She expressed a concern for who would look after their youngest child if Brian wasn't found soon because she had no immediate family to help watch her two daughters until she returned from work. She cut the call short saying she needed to get back to work and see if she could find someone to help her.

Late in the afternoon of the same day Brian went missing, local police officers were called to a disturbance at a convenience store. When they arrived, they found Brian sitting on the floor in the back of the store being guarded by two large men who came to the store owner's help. The police discovered Brian had been shoplifting some food and water when he was confronted by the owner. The confrontation resulted in Brian cursing, lashing out and throwing merchandise and breaking equipment.

During questioning, Brian stated he had not eaten all day and only wanted some food. The officers described him as tall and thin and someone who struggled to pay attention and answer their questions. He stated he had not seen his father in years and his mother was still at work. He said he needed to get home to take care of his two sisters. While the monetary value of the food and water was minimal, the damage of the equipment was estimated at \$3,000.

Because of the value of the damaged property and the insistence of the store owner, the police detained Brian and transported him to the local juvenile detention center for processing. This was Brian's first time to be detained. Due to the late hour of the day, and because it was a Friday, a detention hearing with the juvenile court judge was scheduled for Monday morning.

In Mississippi We Do Hope

Over the weekend, Brian did not participate in any planned activities at the center, but spent his time reading a book he later claimed was one of his favorites, *Lieutenant Hornblower*, by C.S. Forrester.

On Monday morning, when the court team arrived, due to a scheduling error, the court docket had been overbooked with nearly twice as many cases as normal. In addition, not all the paperwork had been completed while other paperwork could not be found. However, Brian had been brought over to the court early that morning and was now sitting in the waiting room in what was sure to be a long day.

The juvenile court judge was finally able to hear Brian's case after lunch. During the hearing the judge asked Brian about the incident at the convenience store, why Brian had missed over 12 days of school this term, and events about his home life. A Guardian ad litem was available for Brian, but had not been able to spend much time before the hearing with Brian.

Brian's mother, Patricia, was present at the hearing with her youngest daughter, Tricia. She asked if she could bring Tricia into the courtroom and apologized for not being able to find childcare. Patricia had also been there since early morning since she had to take the bus to the court hearing. She was worried about getting home and hoped she could call a co-worker for a lift.

During the hearing, Brian told the judge he had never shoplifted before, but things at home had been hard on everyone. He was simply hungry and because he had skipped school, he wasn't able to get the free breakfast and lunch. He said he liked school overall because he generally felt safe, but that he often couldn't think of the answers when called upon by the teacher and he felt embarrassed. Because he liked reading over playing sports, he found it hard to make friends with other guys and sometimes he was called names and bullied.

When asked what he wanted to do after high school, Brian stated he wanted to attend a local vocational school to learn a skill because he enjoyed ships and hoped to work either on a boat or in a shipyard.

Robert, Sandra, and Mark Case Study #2

(For Training Purposes Only)

Mother: Diane, age 26

Father: Robert's father is unknown.
Sandra's father is unknown.
Mark's father is Michael, age 30

Children: Robert, age 8; Sandra, age 4; Mark, newborn

Grandmother: Andrea, age 48, mother of Diane.

Background on Diane:

Diane was raised in a small community a few miles outside Booneville, Mississippi. She had one sibling, a sister, and both she and her sister had spent most of their childhood either going to school or working on the small family plot her mother, Andrea, used to raise vegetables to sell. Diane's father, Ken, had worked at a local small engine repair shop which was considered a good job given he had not completed high school. Unfortunately, there had been an accident at the shop and Ken had been badly hurt. He had to quit working when Diane was 10 years old.

From the time she was 10 years old, Diane's family had lived primarily on the social security disability benefits her father received as well as SNAP benefits. However, the despair led her father to drink and he ridiculed the girls a lot when he wasn't neglecting them altogether.

Diane graduated high school with average grades and had wanted to attend Itawamba Junior College. However, she had become pregnant during her senior year of high school. She thought she knew the father, but if she was right, he had left town to seek his fortune and Diane had never heard from him again. Thankfully, she had a job at local Dollar store making minimum wage and was able to keep the job after giving birth to her son, Robert.

Two years later she found herself pregnant a second time by a guy with whom she worked. It was a one-night stand, and, like the first time, this guy was nowhere to be found after she told him she was pregnant. Fortunately, her mother and sister were able to help some with Robert and her daughter, Sandra, while she worked. However, the old car she had used to get to work was in the shop for repair, but she couldn't afford the bill.

Diane currently lived with Michael, the father of her newborn son, Mark. She and Michael had planned to marry, but Michael had issues with alcohol and drugs and struggled to keep a job. When he had money, he spent most of it on Friday nights. Diane never seemed to be able to get ahead in life.

Presenting Situation:

Mark was born yesterday at 11:05 pm. His mother, Diane, had been brought into the hospital earlier that evening by the paramedics after receiving an anonymous call that Diane was passed out in her home. When the paramedics had arrived at Diane's house, they found two school age children unattended. The paramedics revived Diane, but the shock to her system put her into premature labor and she was rushed to the local hospital's emergency room.

Diane was in labor for a few hours and delivered Mark who was born premature weighing 3 lbs, 8 oz. While Mark was otherwise healthy, he presented with signs of blotchy skin, some diarrhea, fever and occasional tremors. The hospital conducted blood tests which confirmed Mark had traces of marijuana and cocaine in his system. The doctors were able to treat Mark successfully and Kathy, the lead R.N. of the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU), called the Mississippi Department of Child Protection Services (MDCPS) the next morning.

Steve, a new social worker with MDCPS, was assigned Mark's case. Steve researched the information the hospital had provided on Diane and her son. He was able to find a prior report in the system related to Diane's oldest son, Robert. The report recounted events from around 2 years ago when Robert had missed a number of days of school which had been reported to the school attendance officer. The case worker at that time had found Diane did not have reliable transportation to get Robert to school. Robert's father was not in the picture nor was the father of Diane's second child, Sandra. However, the case worker at the time was able find the resources to help Diane get the transportation she needed for Robert to attend school.

As he finished reading the file, he noted a reference to a sister who was listed as an emergency point of contact for Diane. When Steve ran the sister through the system, he found the sister's son had been arrested on two (2) counts of shoplifting three years ago for stealing food and had appeared before the local juvenile court judge. The sister still lived in the same town as Diane and there had been no other reported issues.

Steve gathered his notes and headed to the hospital. When he arrived, he was informed Mark was making good progress. The doctor said Mark had traces of marijuana and cocaine in his system, but after treatment was resting comfortably. Diane had not been very coherent the night before but had recovered enough to now receive visitors.

Steve found Diane in the hospital bed sitting up eating her breakfast as if it were her only meal of the day. A man was sitting in a chair next to Diane. After Steve introduced himself, the man appeared nervous and quickly excused himself as he left the room. Diane commented, actually it was more like she mumbled, that the man was Mark's father, Michael. She said she wasn't surprised he left because, "Michael is afraid of anyone from the government."

Steve informed Diane that MDCPS had received a call from the hospital that morning and that blood tests on Mark indicated he had traces of marijuana and cocaine in his system. Diane immediately called Steve a liar and said she had never taken cocaine before. She said that she

In Mississippi We Do Hope

had not smoked marijuana since she had learned she was pregnant with Mark and she was certainly was not taking cocaine.

Steve asked Diane to tell him how she ended up passed out last night and in the hospital this morning. Diane reluctantly admitted she couldn't remember everything, but that a few friends had been over to the house the night before. She remembered having been stressed over her hours at work having been reduced because of cutbacks due to COVID and she was upset her SNAP benefits, due to a glitch at MDHS, had been delayed a couple of days.

She had been smoking cigarettes that evening while her friends tried to cheer her up. When she ran out of her own cigarettes, her friends gave them some of theirs. The events after that were hazy. She recalled the paramedics and then going into labor. When she woke up this morning she was hungry and was finishing breakfast when Steve arrived.

Steve asked about her other children and was told Diane's mother, Andrea, was at Diane's house watching them. Steve informed Diane he had to conduct an investigation to assess the safety of the children. Diane agreed to have Steve go to her house and speak with her mother.

When Steve arrived at Diane's house, he noted the exterior of the house itself was in need of serious repair. One window was boarded up with plywood. Other windows appeared to have cracks in them, and the yard was overgrown. Diane opened the door and invited Steve inside. The inside of the house was not in much better shape than the outside.

There was an old couch in the living room and a coffee table with a full ashtray containing cigarette butts and empty cans of beer strewn around. In the corner of the room was what looked like a long, padded mat with a pillow and blanket thrown on top. Andrea saw him looking at it and volunteered that she slept there when she visited. The kitchen was overflowing with trash and dirty dishes. Steve asked about food and Andrea said her daughter could only afford the basics; "None of her deadbeat men could be troubled to provide any assistance."

There were two bedrooms. Neither room had much furniture but did have mattresses and some plastic rolling storage carts that doubled as dressers. Sandra, who followed Steve around the small house as he looked at things, ran to her room and grabbed her toy giraffe. She smiled and handed it to Steve and said, "Her name is Sofie. Isn't she cute? She's my friend!"

Steve could tell the family lived in extreme generational poverty and had multiple issues. The only question now was what he was going to be able to do to help the family.