

Community Checklist

Being a parent is an important role. This checklist invites staff to think about the children, family and whānau of people who are both parents and users of mental health and/or addiction services.

Please indicate Yes or No, or Don't Know (DK) or Not Applicable (NA)	Comments
<p>Our environment</p> <p>1. Is there a baby changing facility at our service?</p> <p>2. Is there a safe play area with age-appropriate resources in waiting areas? In consultation rooms?</p> <p>3. Are there family-friendly appointment times (eg, can a service user with school-aged children get an appointment during school hours)?</p>	
<p>Coming in to our service</p> <p>4. When assessing people, do we routinely ask if they are parents?</p> <p>5. Do we ask if they or their partners are pregnant or intending to be?</p> <p>6. Do we use culturally appropriate family and whānau assessment tools, or at least take note of children's ages, locations, carer relationships, etc?</p> <p>7. Do staff make children feel welcome if they visit our service (eg, speak to them directly and at their level, not just to the adults with them)?</p>	
<p>While parents are part of our service</p> <p>8. Are parents encouraged to talk about their children?</p> <p>9. Are children included in the parent's care plan or, where necessary, in a plan of their own? (See www.werrycentre.org.nz for examples.)</p> <p>10. Are children/young people able to talk with staff/have their questions answered (given parental permission to do so)?</p> <p>11. Are parents supported in regularly communicating with their children (as appropriate)?</p> <p>12. Are children/young people included in discharge planning, as appropriate?</p>	
<p>Information and support</p> <p>13. Are age-appropriate information resources/booklets about mental health and addiction issues available for parents to share with their children? Or websites/online resources that staff can recommend?</p> <p>14. Are there culturally appropriate resources about mental health and addiction issues available for parents to share with their children?</p> <p>15. Is the parent supported to discuss with their child's school how the child could best be supported during the parent's recovery?</p> <p>16. Are there staff in our service who specialise in COPMIA* and who are available to children, family and whānau, or to advise staff?</p> <p>17. Do staff have up-to-date information about local services to which they can refer people for parenting, family and whānau support?</p>	

* COPMIA stands for 'children of parents with mental illness and/or addiction'.