

ENDING HOMELESSNESS IN MARYLAND.

TOGETHER.

Self Sufficiency Matrix Introduction & Basic Application: Part 1



MARYLAND BALANCE OF STATE CONTINUUM OF CARE

Introduction

Self Sufficiency Matrix Part 1

- Why Do We Need an Assessment
- What is the Self Sufficiency Matrix
- How to Administer the Self
 Sufficiency Matrix
- The Self Sufficiency Matrix with HMIS & Coordinated Entry

Self Sufficiency Matrix Part 2

- Review the Domains
- Review Guiding Questions & Prompts
- Self Sufficiency Matrix Demo

Why Do We Need an Assessment

- HUD requires CoCs to develop a Coordinated Entry System that is comprised of four core components: Access, Assessment, Prioritization and Referral
- The assessment phase must incorporate a standardized practice that will begin assessing housing needs, client preferences and vulnerability level and incorporate an assessment tool that must meet the following criteria:

Valid	Reliable	Inclusive
Person-centered	User-friendly	Strengths-based
Housing First orientation	Sensitive to lived experiences	Transparent

• The Bos CES assessment tool will consist of HUD Assessment data and the Self Sufficiency Matrix

What is the SSM

- The Self-Sufficiency Matrix (SSM) is an evidence-based tool to assess an individual or family's level of self-sufficiency, need and vulnerability.
- The matrix is based on a set of domains that are considered critical for achieving self-sufficiency, for example: income, employment, education, housing and health care.
- The SSM provides a comprehensive assessment of current level of self-sufficiency and identifies areas that may need additional support and resources.
- The assessment is conducted through a series of questions and prompts that are designed to gather information about the individual's strengths, challenges, and needs in each of the domains.

What is the SSM

An initial measure to <u>determine client level of vulnerability</u> and service need

- A <u>case management tool</u> to document client progress toward self-sufficiency & project move-on
- A <u>self-assessment tool</u> for individuals who wish to determine their own strengths and areas for improvement
- A <u>program management tool</u> for organizations to assess the effectiveness of services being offered and how to direct resources

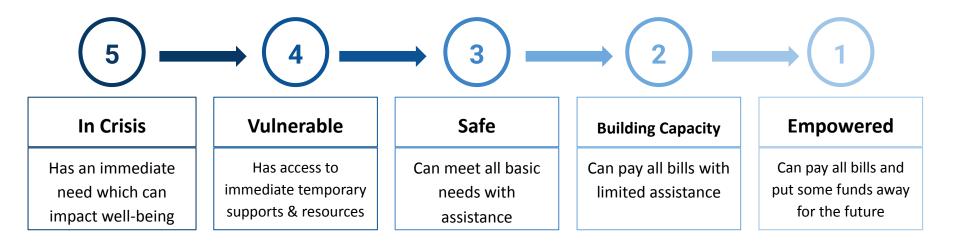
What is the SSM

- The SSM measures client status for each domain based on 5-point scale
- Each domain is measured independently, and the scale is a continuum from "in-crisis" to "empowered"
- The scale range allows for the measurement of client progress or maintenance over time
- Enables service providers to treat the "whole person," thereby promoting a client-centered focus

Domains of Measurement

Income	Adult Education	Family Relations	
Employment	Legal	Mobility/Transportation	
Shelter	Health Care	Credit	
Food	Life Skills	Safety	
Childcare	Mental Health	Parent / Child Relations	
Children's Education	Substance Abuse	Disability & Physical Health	
Community Involvement			

Steps: Road Map to Empowered



Scoring Range

SSM scores may vary based on the household type and relevant questions available to them:

- Household without Children: 0 80 points
- Household with Children: 0 95 points

The higher the score, the higher the vulnerability level and need.

Administering the SSM: Introducing the SSM to clients

- Explain the Coordinated Entry process and how the SSM is a part of assessing need and identifying the most appropriate services
- Provide context on the SSM to acknowledge that the assessment may touch on aspects of client lives that are not directly "relevant to" or affected by the services they are receiving and may address uncomfortable topics
- Highlight that the SSM focuses on a commitment to self sufficiency and cultivating a holistic understanding of their circumstances

Administering the SSM: Introducing the SSM to clients

- Explain that the assessment helps to identify other possible ways in which clients may benefit from services
- State upfront that the assessment may be completed at regular intervals in order to measure progress and ensure that new needs do not go unaddressed
- Inform the client that they may decline to answer any question without impacting their access to services

Administering the SSM: Introducing the SSM to clients

"Some of the topics we are going to discuss cover sensitive information that may be difficult to remember or talk about. Answers to these questions may help increase your housing program options. You don't have to answer any questions you don't want to answer. You can also choose to finish the form at another time or choose to finish the form with another worker. For our purposes, "household" means anyone who is currently living with you or who would you be living with you if you received housing."

"Some of the following questions are particularly sensitive and relating to abuse. Please note that the state of Maryland mandates that most homeless service providers report sexual abuse if the abuse was experienced by a child or by an adult when they were a child. Please answer the following questions truthfully but do not feel obligated to tell your full story. A simple yes, no, or don't know will not give me the information needed to make a report. However, if you do decide to share a story of abuse, I may be obligated to make a report to the authorities."

The SSM should be done jointly by the client and case manager

<u>Given the nuances of the tool, clients should not complete the tool independently or self-select</u> their own score

Answer the SSM honestly, do not complete the SSM more than once to alter the score

to try and match to a particular project type

- Select only *one score* in each domain
- The score should *reflect the current situation*, not something from the past or expected in the future
- If you and the client feel that the best score is somewhere between two numbers, <u>score using the higher number</u>
- Use open <u>ended questions</u> when trying to better understand the client circumstances

Note: Some questions may not need to be asked of the client directly when completing the SSM if the required information can be drawn from the client's file, intake information, the user's observation, or the user's knowledge of the client's situation (e.g., if the user definitively knows the client resides in an emergency shelter, then the client does not need to be directly asked about their residence).

Conversation

The SSM is a guide not a script

Focus on One Category at a Time

- When assessing a household, it is imperative that the staff focus on ONE CATEGORY, or domain, at a time.
- Although some categories may overlap and/or influence each other, staff should look at the household through the lens of just the category they are currently evaluating.
 - For example, if scoring the household's food category, the staff member should not allow the household's housing situation to influence how they score the food category

Household vs. Individual Client

- Staff conducting the assessment must look at each category from the full household perspective
- When working with a category where the individual adults in the household have different situations, please score the category with respect to the individual with the highest need

Domain "Not Applicable"

- When working with households, especially when meeting them for the first few times, you may not have enough information to assess them in some areas (i.e., Parenting Skills or Substance Abuse)
- Not every domain will be applicable for every household and therefore will not be scored (i.e., Childcare and Parenting Skills would not be measured for a household without children)
- All of the individual categories provide an option for "not applicable" which should be selected in these situations
- Once you have enough information, or if the household circumstances change, the domain score should be updated to reflect the situation in a follow-up assessment

SSM Domain Definitions and Guiding Questions

- Each domain includes a general definition and is accompanied by suggestions for questions to guide the assessment to assist in determining where the household lands on the self-sufficiency scoring scale.
- Reviewing the definitions and suggested questions helps with the goal of ensuring consistent and accurate scoring across households, assessor staff and various programs throughout the CoC.

When to Complete the SSM

For the Coordinated Entry System:

- At the point of entry into homelessness / Coordinated Entry System
 <u>OR</u>
- When there is a significant change that would impact the score

For Ongoing Use:

- Once enrolled into permanent housing (RRH/PSH), for ongoing case management planning
- Annually and at project exit to continue measuring progress
- LHC determined interval

SSM: Coordinated Entry & HMIS

- The SSM is a part of the larger assessment process and is required in order for the client information to populate on the By-Name List for prioritization.
- All SSM data must be entered into the client profile in HMIS within 48 hours of intake.
- The SSM can be completed directly in HMIS or on paper & added to HMIS at a later date
- HMIS specific training will be provided in a separate session.

Next Steps

The second recording in this training will provide more details on the specific domains and review the suggested questions for each measure.



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Housing

Definition: This domain is intended to assess the client's current housing status. For instance, if the client was evicted a month ago but is temporarily staying with a family member, the rating should reflect the client's temporary housing arrangement and not their recent eviction.

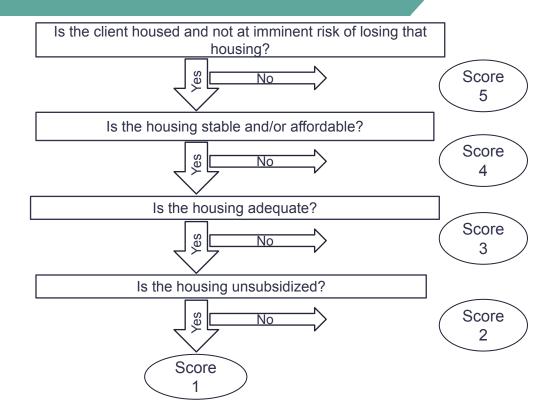
A client living in an SRO (Single Room Occupancy unit) could be considered 2 or 3, depending on the affordability and condition of the unit.

Subjects: This domain is completed for all clients.

Housing

- 1) Empowered: Household is in safe, adequate, unsubsidized housing.
- 2) Building Capacity: Household is in safe, adequate, subsidized housing.
- 3) Safe: In stable housing that is safe but only marginally adequate
- 4) Vulnerable: In transitional, temporary, or substandard housing; current rent/mortgage payment is unaffordable (over 30% of income).
- 5) In Crisis: Homeless or threatened with eviction.

Housing Decision Tree



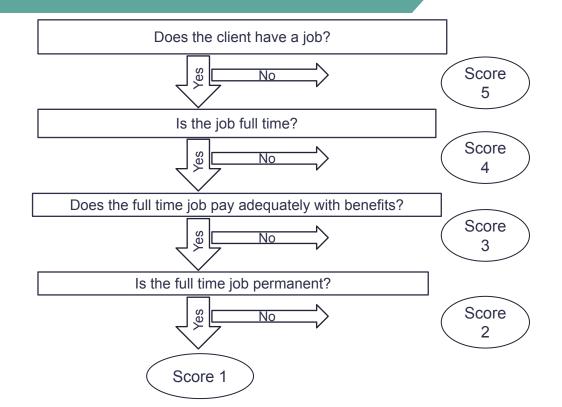
Housing Sample Questions & Prompts

- What is your current living situation?
- Are you facing eviction or foreclosure?
- Is your home structurally safe and free of mold and any other infestations?
- Are you receiving any rental or mortgage assistance? If yes, how long will your assistance last?
- If you are not receiving assistance, how much is your monthly rent amount/mortgage payment, and how much is your net (after taxes) monthly income?
- Do you feel you can afford to live in a neighborhood of your choice?



- 1) Empowered: Maintains permanent full-time employment with adequate pay and benefits.
- 2) Building Capacity: Employed full-time with adequate pay and benefits.
- 3) Safe: Employed full-time; inadequate pay; few or no benefits.
- 4) Vulnerable: Temporary, part-time, or seasonal job; inadequate pay and no benefits.
- 5) In Crisis: No job. Participating in unpaid, volunteer positions.

Employment Decision Tree



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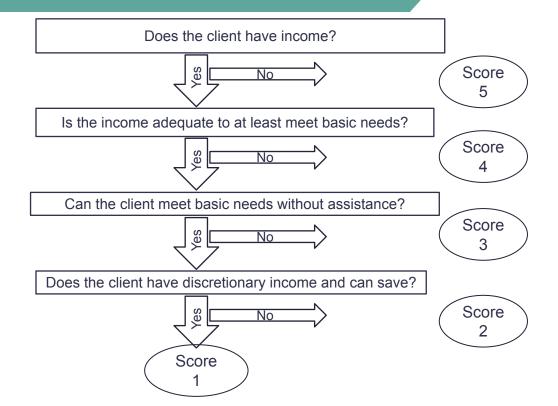
Employment Sample Questions & Prom

- Are you currently employed?
- Is your employment situation temporary, seasonal or permanent?
- How many hours per week do you work on average?
- Are you working the number of hours you desire or need to work?
- Does your employment situation provide adequate pay (see definitions below)?
- Does your employer provide benefits for you? For your family? Examples of benefits:
 - Medical/mental/dental/vision insurance
 - Paid vacation/holiday/sick time or PTO (paid time off)
 - Life insurance
 - Pension/retirement/401K
 - Tuition reimbursement
- If employed, how long have you been working for your current employer?

Income

- 1) Empowered: Income is sufficient and well-managed; has discretionary income and is able to save.
- 2) Building Capacity: Can meet basic needs without assistance.
- 3) Safe: Can meet basic needs with subsidy; appropriate spending.
- 4) In Crisis: No income.
- 5) Vulnerable: Inadequate income AND/OR spontaneous/inappropriate spending.

Income Decision Tree



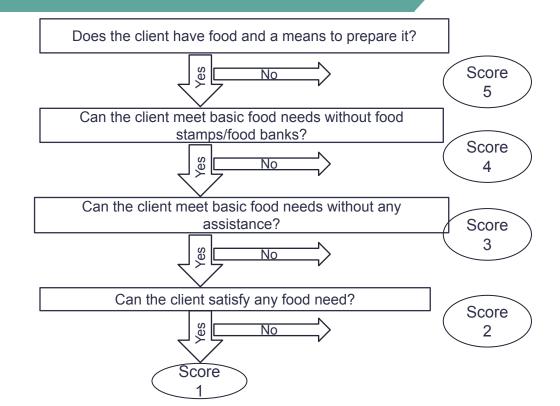
Income Sample Questions & Prompts

- Do you have income?
- Is your current income covering costs for your basic needs (food, clothing, housing, utilities, transportation, etc.)?
- Does your income allow you to meet your basic needs and pay all your bills (including utilities, phone, credit cards, restitution, loans, childcare, etc.)?
- Do you have a savings account? If yes, how many months of expenses are covered?
- Does your income allow you to make non-essential purchases (beyond basic needs and monthly bills)?

Food

- 1) Empowered: Can choose to purchase any food the household desires.
- 2) Building Capacity: Can meet basic food needs without assistance.
- 3) Safe: Can meet basic food needs, but requires occasional assistance.
- 4) Vulnerable: Household is on food stamps.
- 5) In Crisis: No food or means to prepare it. Relies to a significant degree on other sources of free or low-cost food.

Food Decision Tree



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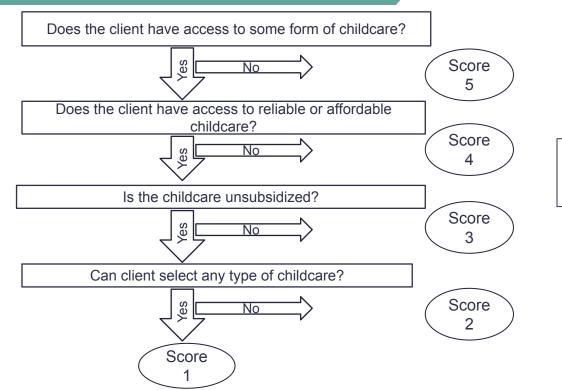
Food Sample Questions & Prompts

- Are you currently able to access food for you and/or your family?
- Where do you get most of the food that you and/or your family eat on a daily basis?
- Do you receive food assistance/benefits (SNAP, Basic Food, EBT; formerly known as "food stamps") or other food resources (food pantries)?
- Are you able to meet your basic food needs without food benefits?
- Are you able to meet your basic food needs without a food pantry, meal site or family assistance?
- Are you able to afford to buy the foods that you would like?
- Do you have access to healthy, fresh food (lives close to grocery store or farmers market, has access to community or own garden, food pantry provides fresh produce and dairy)?
- Do you know how to prepare the food that you have (possess basic cooking skills, understands how to use recipes, etc.)?
- Do you have the tools needed to prepare the food you have (i.e., working stove/oven, microwave, slow cooker, pots/pans, utensils, etc.)?

Childcare

- 1) Empowered: Able to select quality dependent care of choice (could be from among family members, friends, or neighbors).
- 2) Building Capacity: Reliable, affordable dependent care is available (could be family members, friends, or neighbors); no need for subsidies.
- 3) Safe: Affordable, subsidized dependent care is available but limited (if family members', friends' or neighbors' availability or interest is limited).
- 4) Vulnerable: Dependent care is unreliable or unaffordable; inadequate supervision is a problem for dependent care that is available (including family members, friends or neighbors).
- 5) In Crisis: Needs dependent care but none is available or accessible (including family members, friends or neighbors).

Childcare Decision Tree



If the household does not have children, use N/A for this category.

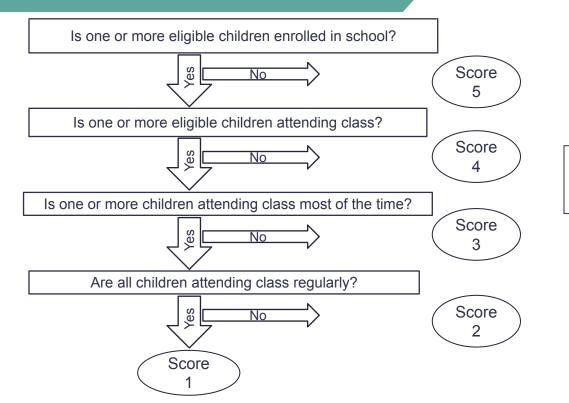
Childcare Sample Questions & Prompts

- Do you have children for whom you need childcare (ages 0-11)?
- Do you have childcare for your child(ren)?
 - If yes, is your childcare reliable?
 - Is it affordable?
 - Is it adequate
 - Does care provider offer supplemental learning activities/curriculum?
- Are you able to select your childcare of choice?
- Do you have a backup childcare plan if you have problems with your current provider?

Children's Education

- 1) Empowered: All school-aged children are enrolled, attend classes on a regular basis, and are performing well in school.
- 2) Building Capacity: All school-aged children enrolled in school and attend classes on a regular basis, but one or more are struggling in 1–2 classes.
- 3) Safe: School-aged children are enrolled in school, but one or more only attend classes most of the time OR are struggling in at least 3, but not all, of their classes.
- 4) Vulnerable: All school-aged children are enrolled in school, but one or more are not attending or only occasionally attending classes OR have unmet educational needs.
- 5) In Crisis: One or more school-aged child(ren) not enrolled in school.

Children's Education Decision Tree



If the household does not have children, use N/A for this category.

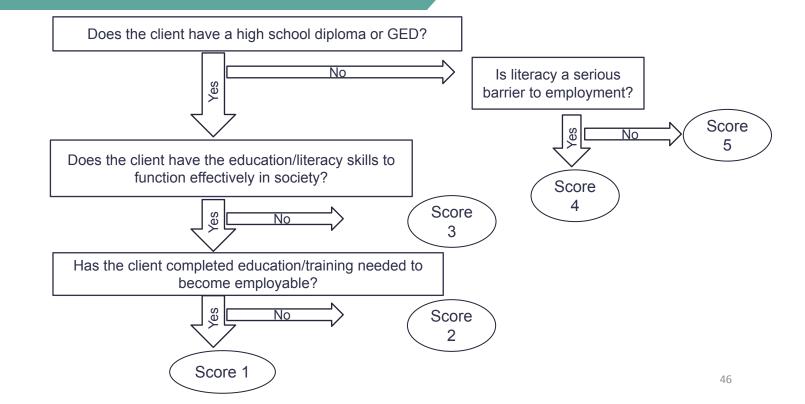
Children's Education Sample Questions & Prompts

- What are you doing to prepare your child to start school?
- Do you know where/how to find resources to help you prepare your child for school?
- What do you think your child needs help with at this time regarding school readiness?
- Are you using any school/educational resources at this time?
- Do you find it difficult to access school/educational resources to help your child?
- What do you think your child needs help with at this time to be successful in school?

Adult Education

- 1) Empowered: Client has completed additional education/training beyond HS diploma/GED/HiSET (and is in a position where they are employable).
- 2) Building Capacity: Client has HS diploma/GED/HiSET and is seeking additional education/ training to benefit employment.
- 3) Safe: Client has HS diploma/GED/HiSET but is not seeking additional education/training to benefit employment.
- 4) Vulnerable: No HS diploma/GED/HiSET but client is enrolled in HS or a GED/HiSET program.
- 5) In Crisis: No HS diploma/GED/HiSET and is not enrolled in HS or GED/HiSET program.

Adult Education Decision Tree



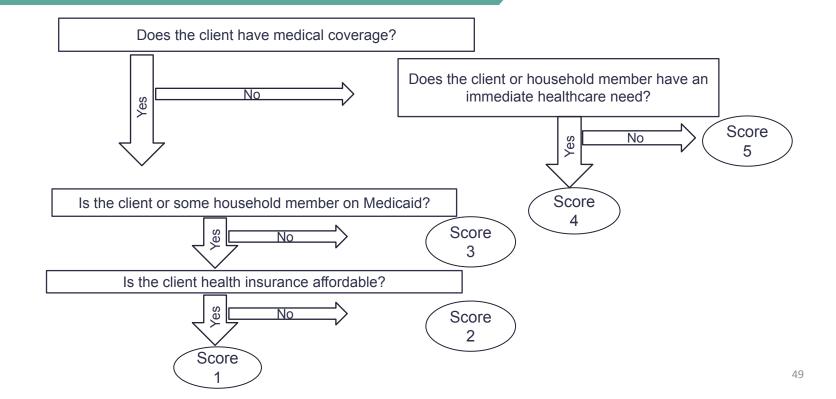
Adult Education Sample Questions & Prompts

- What is the highest level of education that you have completed?
- What degrees, professional certificates or professional trainings have you obtained?
- If you did not graduate from high school, do you have a GED?
- Are you able to read, write and perform basic math skills?
- If English is not your first language, are you able to use English in a functional capacity, or are you enrolled in ESL classes?
- Are you currently enrolled in educational classes or programs? If so, for what?

Healthcare

- 1) Empowered: Client is covered by affordable, adequate health insurance.
- 2) Building Capacity: Clients and any household members have some type of medical coverage, but it may strain budget or is less than adequate.
- 3) Safe: At least one household member has no immediate need and no medical coverage, but is able to access medical care when needed.
- 4) Vulnerable: No immediate need, but at least one household member has no medical coverage and greater difficulty accessing medical care when needed.
- 5) In Crisis: At least one household member has immediate need for medical care or attention and has no medical coverage.

Healthcare Decision Tree



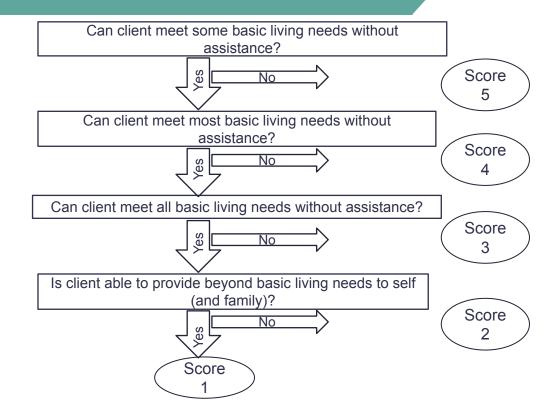
Healthcare Sample Questions & Prompts

- Do you and everyone in your family have health insurance coverage?
- Are you or a household member currently dealing with untreated, chronic or life-threatening physical health challenges?
 - If so, are you or a household member currently receiving the health care services that you need to treat and deal with these challenges?
 - Have you or a household member seen a doctor to discuss your current health challenges?
- Do you know how to access medical/physical health care services in your community?
- Do you or a household member receive preventative care from both a doctor and a dentist?
- Do you or anyone in your family have immediate physical or dental health problems or concerns?
- Are you able to access medical care when needed?

Life Skills

- 1) Empowered: Able to provide beyond basic needs of daily living for self and family, if applicable.
- 2) Building Capacity: Able to meet all basic needs of daily living without assistance.
- 3) Safe: Can meet most but not all daily living needs without assistance.
- 4) Vulnerable: Can meet a few but not all needs of daily living with assistance.
- 5) In Crisis: Unable to meet basic needs such as personal care, food, activities of daily living.

Life Skills Decision Tree



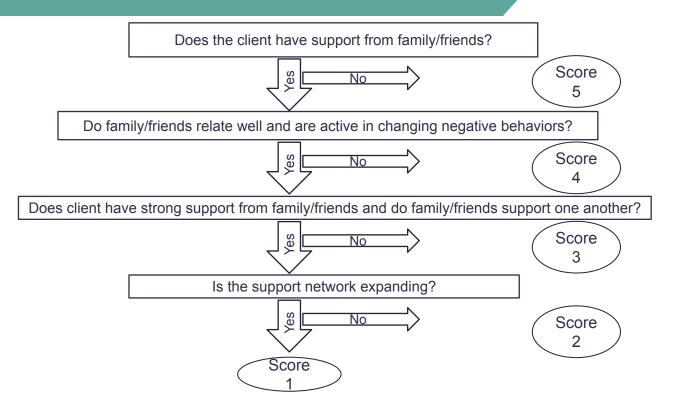
Life Skills Sample Questions & Prompts

- Is the client able to perform all the ADLs for self or with assistance?
- If no, does client have the assistance needed in his/her home?
- Is that assistance provided by someone else in the household?
- Does being a caregiver create a barrier to self-sufficiency because it impedes that person's ability to work outside the home and earn income?

Family/Social Relations

- 1) Empowered: Has a healthy and expanding support network. Family and intimate relationships are stable and communication is consistently open.
- 2) Building Capacity: Strong support from family or friends. Family members or partners support each other's efforts.
- 3) Safe: Client receives some positive support (financial/emotional/material) from family or friends. Family members or partners acknowledge and seek to change negative behaviors; are learning to communicate and support
- 4) Vulnerable: Family/friends lack the ability or resources (financial/emotional/material) to help clients. Family members or partners offer negative support; potential for abuse, neglect, or severed relations.
- 5) In Crisis: Family or friends are uninvolved, uninterested, or unmotivated to provide support.

Family/Social Relations Decision Tree



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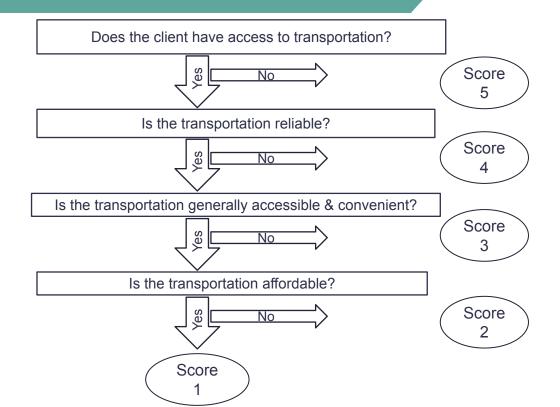
Family/Social Relations Sample Questions & Prompts

- Do you have friends or family you can always rely on when in need of support? If yes, how many personal supports can you currently ask for help if needed?
- Are you aware of community resources that can help support you in a time of need? If yes, are you able to access them?
- Are you connected to or actively involved with groups in your community (i.e., church, senior centers, schools and service groups)?
- Do you feel that you are able to offer help and support to your own family and/or friends?

Mobility / Transportation

- 1) In Crisis: No access to transportation (public or private).
- 2) Vulnerable: Transportation is available but unreliable, unpredictable, or unaffordable.
- 3) Safe: Transportation is available and reliable, but inconvenient.
- 4) Building Capacity: Transportation is readily available and convenient but not preferred; if a client owns a car, they lack either a driver's license or insurance.
- 5) Empowered: Transportation is readily available, affordable, and satisfactory; if the client owns a car, has a driver's license and car is adequately insured.

Mobility/Transportation Decision Tree



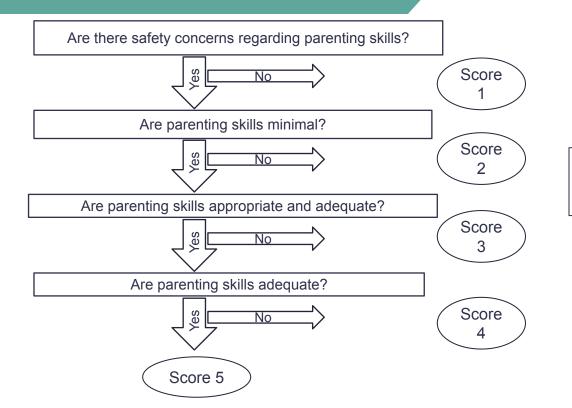
Mobility/Transportation Sample Questions & Prompts

- Do you have access to transportation when you need it (personal car, public transportation, regular ride from friends/family)?
- If yes, how often is transportation available for you?
- Have you had difficulty getting transportation to work or other important appointments recently?
- How often do you or your family members have difficulty getting transportation when you need it?

Parent / Child Relations

- 1) Empowered: Parenting skills are well-developed; parent-child relations are stable and communication is consistently open.
- 2) Building Capacity: Parenting skills are adequate; the client supports their child(ren)'s development.
- 3) Safe: Parenting skills are apparent but require reinforcement; the client acknowledges and seeks to change negative behaviors and is learning to communicate and support.
- 4) Vulnerable: Parenting skills are minimal; client has difficulty relating to their child(ren); potential for abuse or neglect.
- 5) In Crisis: There are safety concerns regarding parenting skills or all relations with their child(ren) have been severed.

Parent / Child Relations Decision Tree



If the household does not have children, use N/A for this category.

Parent / Child Relations Sample Questions & Prompts

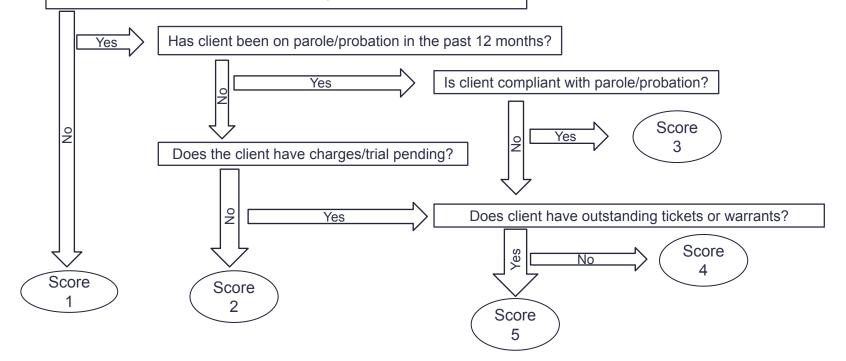
- As the staff member working with this family, are you aware of any safety concerns regarding parenting skills?
- Are you recently a first-time parent (within the last year)?
- Are you familiar with child development concepts (parent is a positive role model, maintains structure/routine for child(ren), is involved in child(ren)'s education)?
- Have parenting skills classes ever been recommended to you? Do you believe you would benefit from attending such a class?



- Empowered: No criminal history OR no active criminal justice involvement in more than 12 months (and prior arrests do not pose a problem to current self-sufficiency).
- 2) Building Capacity: Has successfully completed probation/parole, but prior arrests pose a problem to current self-sufficiency.
- 3) Safe: Fully compliant with probation/parole terms with no charges pending.
- 4) Vulnerable: Current charges/trial pending OR non-compliance with probation/parole, OR clients who are undocumented and actively working towards permanent residency/citizenship.
- 5) In Crisis: Current outstanding warrants OR clients who are undocumented and at risk for detention/deportation OR currently incarcerated.

Legal Decision Tree

Does the client have a criminal history in the past 12 months?



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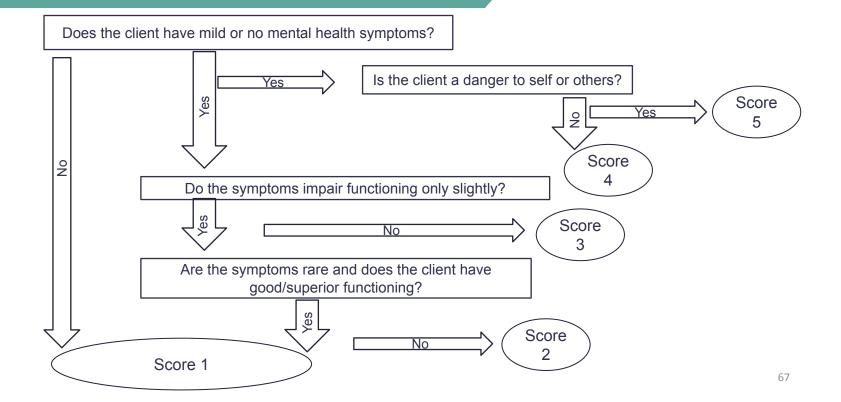
Legal Sample Questions & Prompts

- Do you have any issues that may require a lawyer to resolve (divorce, discrimination, child support, etc.)
- Do you currently have legal representation for any issues?
- Are you getting the help that you need to deal with those legal problems?
 - If not, do you know where to get legal help in your community?

Mental Health

- 1) Empowered: Symptoms are absent or rare; good or superior functioning in a wide range of activities; no more than everyday problems and concerns.
- 2) Building Capacity: Minimal symptoms that are expected responses to life stressors; only slight impairment in functioning.
- 3) Safe: Mild symptoms may be present but are transient; only moderate difficulty in functioning due to mental health issues.
- 4) Vulnerable: Recurrent mental health symptoms that may affect behavior but NOT a danger to self or others; persistent issues with functioning due to mental health symptoms.
- 5) In Crisis: Danger to self or others; recurring suicidal ideation; experiencing severe difficulties in day-to-day life due to mental health issues.

Mental Health Decision Tree



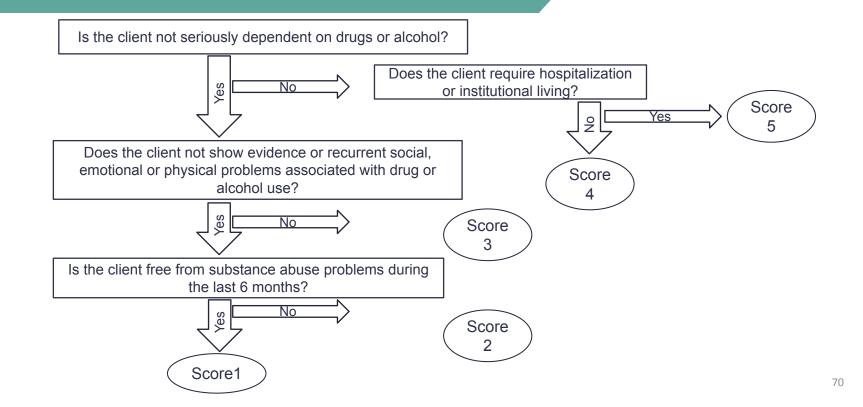
Mental Health Sample Questions & Prompts

- Is anyone in the household experiencing mental health challenges? If so, do these challenges impact normal day-to-day living?
- Is anyone currently receiving mental health services?
- Do you know how to access mental health services in your community?

Substance Use

- 1) Empowered: No drug use/alcohol abuse in the last 6 months.
- 2) Building Capacity: Client has used during the last 6 months, but no evidence of persistent or recurrent social, occupational, emotional, or physical problems related to use; no evidence of recurrent dangerous use.
- Safe: Use within the last 6 months; evidence of persistent or recurrent social, occupational, emotional or physical problems related to use (such as disruptive behavior or housing problems); problems have persisted for at least one month.
- 4) Vulnerable: Meets criteria for dependence; preoccupation with use and/or obtaining drugs/alcohol; withdrawal or withdrawal avoidance behaviors evident; use results in avoidance or neglect of essential life activities.
- 5) In Crisis: Meets criteria for severe abuse/dependence; resulting in problems so severe that institutional living or hospitalization may be necessary.

Substance Use Decision Tree



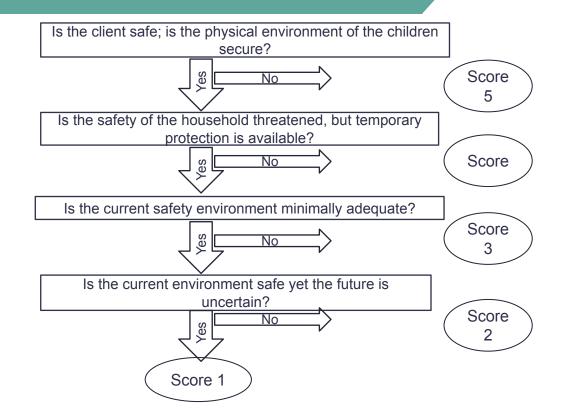
Substance Use Sample Questions & Prompts

- Do you or any members of your household have issues with substance abuse?
 - For example, has anyone missed a family event or work commitment because of drinking or using drugs?
- Are you or any members of your household receiving assistance with substance abuse issues?
- Does anyone in your household have a history of substance abuse?
- Do you know what resources are available in your community to help you deal with alcohol and/or drug abuse?



- 1) Empowered: Environment is apparently safe and stable.
- 2) Building Capacity: Environment is safe, however, the future of such is uncertain; safety planning is important.
- 3) Safe: Current level of safety is minimally adequate; ongoing safety planning is essential.
- 4) Vulnerable: Safety is threatened/temporary protection is available; level of lethality is high.
- 5) In Crisis: Home or residence is not safe; immediate level of lethality is extremely high; possible child and family services involvement.

Safety Decision Tree



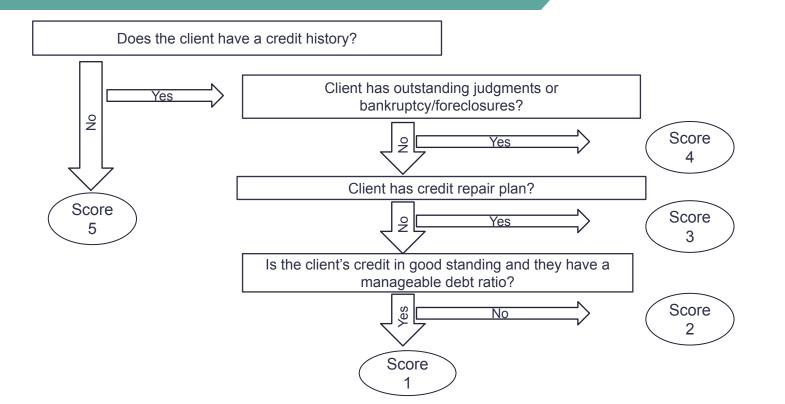
Safety Sample Questions & Prompts

- Does someone feel unsafe in your home?
- How often do you or someone in your home feel unsafe (all, most or some of the time)?
- Are you or someone in your home currently experiencing physical, emotional or psychological abuse in your home?

Credit

- 1) Empowered: Client has a manageable debt ratio and good credit
- 2) Building Capacity: Client has an unmanageable debt ratio or poor credit (but not both)
- 3) Safe: Client has an unmanageable debt ratio and poor credit, OR has no credit history
- 4) Vulnerable: Client has outstanding judgments, garnishments, or debts in collection
- 5) In Crisis: Client has history of bankruptcies, foreclosures, evictions or repossessions

Credit Decision Tree



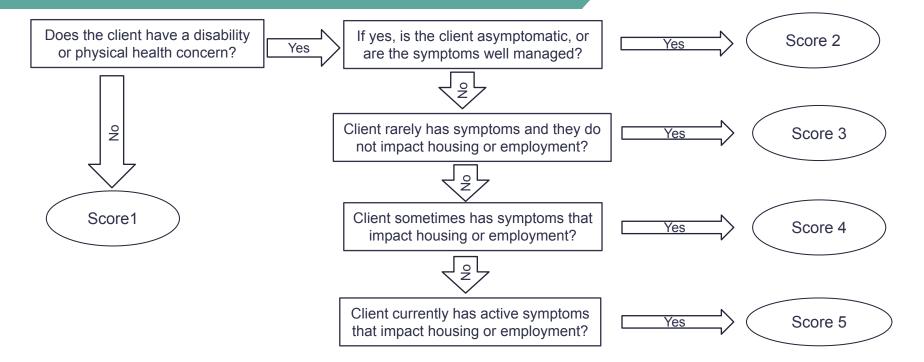
Credit Sample Questions & Prompts

- Have you ever filed for bankruptcy?
- Have you applied for credit cards in the past?
- Do you know your credit score?
- Do you know the current amount of debt you owe?
- Do you receive letters or notifications from collections agencies?

Disabilities & Physical Health

- 1) Empowered: No identified disabilities or chronic physical health conditions.
- Building Capacity: Asymptomatic condition controlled by services or medication.
- 3) Safe: Rarely has acute or chronic symptoms affecting housing, employment, social interactions, etc.
- 4) Vulnerable: Sometimes or periodically has acute or chronic symptoms affecting housing, employment, social interactions, etc.
- 5) In Crisis: Acute or chronic symptoms are currently affecting housing, employment, social interactions, etc.

Disabilities & Physical Health Decision Tree



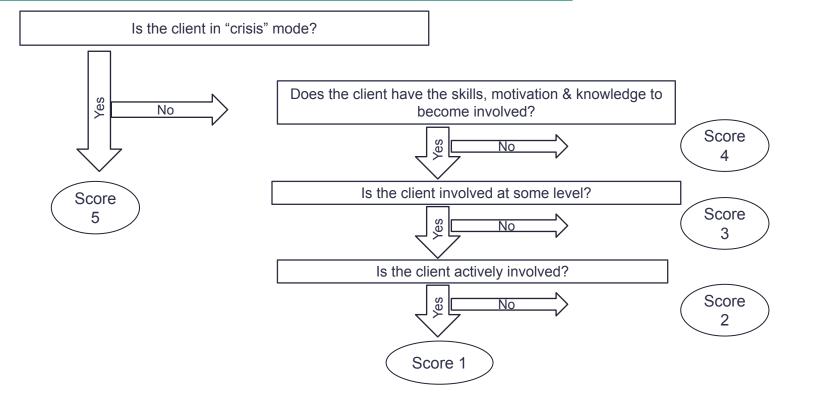
Disabilities & Physical Health Sample Questions & Prompts

- Do you have a health condition that impacts your ability to maintain housing or employment?
- Are you receiving treatment for your health condition?
- Are you using any medications or other treatments as prescribed?

Community Involvement

- 1) Empowered: Actively involved in the community.
- 2) Building Capacity: Some community involvement (advisory group, support group, church, volunteering, etc.), but has barriers (transportation, childcare issues, etc.).
- 3) Safe: Has adequate social skills and motivation/desire but lacks the opportunity or knowledge of ways to become involved OR chooses not to participate.
- 4) Vulnerable: Socially isolated, lacks social skills or lacks motivation to become involved.
- 5) In Crisis: Not applicable due to crisis situation; in "survival" mode.

Community Involvement Decision Tree



Community Involvement Sample Questions & Prompts

- Do you participate in any community activities, like school programs, church activities, a support group, volunteering or work?
- Are you interested in being more involved in your community?
- Are you aware of available activities in your community?
- Do you have the tools available to be more active in your community, like transportation, childcare, internet access, etc?