



Clinical Assessment of Protective Parenting (CAPP)

The North Carolina Child Medical Evaluation Program (CMEP) is launching a new statewide program, the Clinical Assessment of Protective Parenting (CAPP). At the request of county child welfare agencies, rostered CAPP providers will conduct clinical assessments of caregivers to aid in decision-making in CPS investigations.

The CAPP program is driven by empirically supported measures in understanding a parent's ability and willingness to mitigate safety risks for their child. The objectives of this evaluation are two-fold: to offer a clinical lens through which to assess the current risk and potential of future harm that a caretaker may pose to a child, and to assist in identifying services that will enhance a parent's capacity to provide for their child's needs.

Participant inclusion criteria

Interviewee is the parent or caretaker to a child or children who are subject to an open CPS Assessment *and* circumstances meet any of the criteria below:

- There have been two or more reports of maltreatment by the interviewee with similar allegations and no evidence of progress
- The agency needs assistance with identifying parent/caretaker needs and/or the appropriate services to protect children from entry into foster care
- "Primary Needs" identified on the DSS-5229 indicate that the parent would benefit from further, clinical assessment
- At least one of the children is part of a population identified as at greatest risk of maltreatment AND the Family Risk Level on DSS-5230 is HIGH. Populations identified at the greatest risk of maltreatment are:
 - Child under age 3
 - Teenager with mental health and/or behavioral issues
 - Child born to young parents with little to no parenting education
 - Children born to parents with significant history of abuse/neglect
 - Children living in significant poverty
 - LGBTQ youth

CAPP referral information is located on the CMEP website at www.med.unc.edu/pediatrics/cmep/.

CAPP providers can be located through the CMEP Provider Portal.

For more information about the CAPP program, please contact cmep_capp@med.unc.edu