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| **Intent:**  *Families at imminent risk of having a child removed receive intensive in-home crisis intervention and treatment to increase safety and prevent the child from entering foster care.* |

**Service Description:**

For families facing imminent removal of a child, HOMEBUILDERS® is an evidence-based model that provides intensive in-home crisis intervention, counseling, and life skills education. The HOMEBUILDERS® therapist:

* Serves families in their homes.
* Meets with families on various days at various times (including weekends) to get an in-depth sense of when and how the children are at risk.
* Assesses family needs and works with them to develop safety plans and clinical strategies to promote safety.
* Identifies and links the family with appropriate community resources based on their needs.
* Has a small caseload to ensure intensive support, generally 8 to 10 face-to-face hours/week with each family—but is also available 24/7 if needed.
* Stays involved with the family for four weeks with the possibility of extensions and supplementary sessions if clinically necessary.

**Who Qualifies:**

Families in the District with a child at imminent risk of removal

**Provider/Period of Service:**

Catholic Charities, October 2015-October 2016

Progressive Life Center, October 2015-October 2016

**Referral Process:**

* CFSA social worker consults with his/her supervisor or program manager to determine if HOMEBUILDERS® is accepting families and if the family meets the criteria for referral. CFSA supervisor or program manager checks Google Docs to determine whether HOMEBUILDERS® has openings.
* The social worker explains HOMEBUILDERS® to the family to make sure they are clear about the intensity of services and willing to have the provider in their home. Families must agree to participate to receive services.
* The social worker calls the HOMEBUILDERS® supervisor to make the referral at 571-314-0109. The HOMEBUILDERS® provider accepts referrals 24/7. As part of the screening process, the social worker should be prepared to provide the following information:
  + What happened in the recent past to raise concerns that the children are at imminent risk of placement?
  + If HOMEBUILDERS® were not available, what would you do and where would the child be placed?
  + What services has the family already had (historically and recently)?
  + What less intensive services have you tried? Is there a reason they are not appropriate now?
  + What services are currently in place (if any)?
  + What CPS reports have been substantiated or founded?
  + When is the last time you saw the family?
  + In addition to the primary concerns, do you have additional safety/behavioral concerns?
* Upon approval of the referral and the family’s acceptance of services, the HOMEBUILDERS® supervisor completes an intake form and assigns a therapist who meets with the CFSA social worker and the family within 24 hours of the accepted referral.

**For More Information:**

Kazuko Kato, project management specialist, Child and Family Services Agency, 202-727-4861 or [kazuko.kato@dc.gov](mailto:kazuko.kato@dc.gov).