**Greater Shepparton Best Start**

**ECEC Child and Family Vulnerability Guide Tool Kit**

**Vulnerability Guide Training Resources**

**Child Care Practice Scenarios**

**Practice Scenario 1: Childcare**

Kelly is a single 17-year-old mum who became pregnant in Year 11 and left school. She has had strong family support and lived at home with her parents and baby Charlie, using respite sessions at your childcare centre. She attends MCH regularly.

She has coped well and looked after Charlie (who is now 2 years & 5 months old) but was reluctant to take up any more schooling or job training. She leaves home and rents a flat with Charlie supported by some rent and practical help from her parents. Charlie continues to attend your childcare centre where he has been having regular care to support her respite needs since he was 3 months old. He seems sociable and happy.

Kelly meets a new partner who moves in a few weeks later and does not make any effort to engage with Charlie or spend time with him. The new partner drinks regularly and starts to take drugs in the house. He also gets quite verbally aggressive towards Kelly if she mentions these issues.

Charlie becomes quite silent and aggressive towards other children at childcare...

* What do you think could be some of the circumstances/issues that could be occurring for this child/family?
* What protective factors can you identify for the child/family?
* Where do you consider the child/family fits on the Vulnerability Guide?
* What might you do?

**Practice Scenario 2: Childcare**

Tom and Mary have three children aged 4, 7 and 10 years and their youngest child Jack is attending your childcare centre. A few months ago, Mary returned to work full time in a job that she loves.

Tom started has own engineering business a year ago and it is taking time to build up. Tom often has to work away from home for the week days to develop a client base for the business and they rely on Mary’s income to make ends meet while the business becomes more self-supporting. Mary’s sister and Tom’s parents help the busy family where they can.

The middle child Bella is diagnosed with leukaemia and requires tests and ongoing treatments in Melbourne and her prognosis is not positive…

* *What do you think could be some of the circumstances/issues that could be occurring for this child/family?*
* *Which Vulnerability category (or categories might be applicable to this child/family?*
* *What level of vulnerability do you think is most applicable in this situation?*
* *What protective factors can you identify for the child/family?*
* *How might an early childhood practitioner best support this family?*

**Practice Scenario 3: Childcare**

Fatima is a 29-year-old Iraqi woman.  She has a three-year-old son (Shoaq) who was born in Iraq. Her daughter Mariam (6 months) was born after the family moved into the local area from Melbourne a year ago for husband Ali’s employment.

Shoaq and Mariam attend your childcare service three days per week for respite care as referred from a local family support agency. Fatima speaks little English, but through the interpreter, explains that she did not want to move and has no family residing locally.

She attends MCH regularly and gave permission for you to discuss her records with the nurse and they indicate a difficult birth with foetal distress as the cord was around Mariam’s neck. Fatima had a Vitamin D deficiency.

Fatima’s interpreter reports that she does have one friend living locally whom she knew in Melbourne and who also has young children. Some family members live in Melbourne, but she has not travelled back to visit as yet. She misses family and constantly asks Ali to find work back in Melbourne.

They children are often absent and are hard to settle when they do attend. Fatima seems distracted when she does bring them/pick them up and doesn’t want to engage in much conversation.

* *What do you think could be some of the circumstances/issues that could be occurring for this child/family?*
* *Which Vulnerability category (or categories might be applicable to this child/family?*
* *What level of vulnerability do you think is most applicable in this situation?*
* *What protective factors can you identify for the child/family?*
* *How might an early childhood practitioner best support this family?*