

Student Resource Guide: SESSION 3

Risk Management and Incident Reporting

OUTCOMES

When you have finished this session you will be able to:

- ▶ ^{List} Identify principles of risk management.
- ▶ Identify common risks to individuals' health and safety.
- ▶ Identify ^{ways} measures to mitigate ^{or lessen,} risks.
- ▶ ~~Describe how to use~~ ^{Use} risk assessment tools.
- ▶ Define "mandated reporter."
- ▶ Identify incidents that the DSP is required to report.
- ▶ Describe procedures for reporting abuse and neglect.
- ▶ Complete a special incident report.

KEY WORDS

Incident reporting: By law and regulation, the DSP is required to ~~report~~ ^{report} certain events to regional centers, Community Care Licensing and/or protective services agencies.

Mandated Reporter: Any person, paid or unpaid, who has assumed full- or part-time responsibility for the care or custody of an elder or dependent adult. DSPs are mandated reporters.

Mitigate: To lessen the effects of risks.

Risk Management: A term given to a set of practices that ~~lead to minimizing~~ ^{lessen the} possibility of ^{harm of} individuals.

A mandated reporter must tell authorities if they see, know, or think there may be abuse of someone in their care.

Opening Scenario

^{Maddy} ~~Maddie~~ is a 24-year-old woman. When she was 8 years old her mother died of breast cancer, and she sees her father infrequently since he lives in another state. ~~Maddy, as she is called,~~ ^{She} does not speak but uses gestures and shakes her head for "no" and "yes." Maddy has good skills in many areas. She is artistic and loves to dance. She is very aware of her appearance and takes time to look her best. Maddy is a friendly young woman and is always eager to meet new people. While this is a positive trait, it also has caused some problems; for example, at times she has given her money to strangers.

Maddy had a serious accident when she was younger and is usually very cautious in everything she does. She has a history of seizures, especially when she gets hot. She loves to walk in her neighborhood and rides public transit, but occasionally needs support to remember routes.

^{Kim} ~~Kella~~, one of the DSPs supporting Maddy and her roommate, has been in this position for two years. ~~Kella~~ ^{Kim} believes strongly in facilitating Maddy's independence and supporting her choices, but also worries that Maddy might make some poor choices or put herself in risky situations.