Talking Points

Use these ***Talking Points*** to help counsel on topic areas where a caregiver may need more information.
Provide all caregivers with the Ohio AAP Caregiver Handout (Safety and Injury Prevention Resources), which links them to many resources to help keep their families safe and healthy in their communities.

Question and "Discussion Suggested" Response	Suggested Provider or Staff Talking Points
SOCIAL NEEDS QUESTIONS	
Social Needs: Job Resources Would you like help finding a job or employment? **If YES**	There are many options to help find a way to provide financial support for families. Ohio Means Jobs Centers can assist job seekers, employers and youth with: • Job search assistance • Employee recruitment • Job training • And more…
Social Needs: Child Care Resources Would you like help finding daycare for your child? **If YES**	• There are many options and resources available to help find child care for Ohio families.
Social Needs: Housing & Utility Resources Do you have trouble paying utilities or maintaining a safe place to live? **If YES**	• Even with good intentions and a written spending plan, one can experience overwhelming financial challenges. • Assistance is available to help pay back debt and plan for the future.
Social Needs: Food Insecurity In the past 12 months, did you worry that your food would run out before you could buy more? **If YES** In the past 12 months, did the food you bought just not last and you didn't have money to get more? **If YES**	• It's scary when you don't think there's enough food for your family, and this happens to many families. • The Ohio Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics has information on local resources to help you get the food you need. • You can look online to find a local food bank or food pantry in your area and how to find long term resources.
FAMILY NEEDS QUESTIONS	
Family Needs: Parenting Skills Do you sometimes find you need to slap or hit your child? **If YES**	• Physical expressions of anger, such as raising a clenched fist, throwing a book on the floor, breaking a pencil or hitting a wall, can serve as a warning to others about unhappiness and anger. • If you start to feel frustrated, lay the baby in the crib and take a break or ask another adult to help. • Never scream at or shake your baby. • Resources are available in the community that may help you learn to manage frustration, anger and family issues.
Family Needs: Parenting Skills Do you wish you had more help with your child? **If YES**	• Parenting can be challenging. • If you start to feel frustrated, lay the baby in the crib and take a break or ask another adult to help. • Never scream at or shake your baby. • Many parents go through difficult times with their kids. • There are resources available to help with difficult child behaviors.
FAMILY NEEDS QUESTIONS	
Family Needs: Parental Stress Do you often feel under extreme stress? **If YES**	• We all experience stress in our lives and need to learn how to handle it. • Stress is part of parenting – kids are a big responsibility. • Kids learn how to deal with stress by watching you – continue to work on healthy coping skills. • Learning healthy ways to deal with stress helps you and your family. • Don't lose your cool - take a few moments to cool down and get help.

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Family Needs: Maternal Depression Over the past 2 weeks, have you often felt down, depressed or hopeless? **If YES** Over the past 2 weeks, have you felt very little interest or pleasure in things? **If YES**	• If you have little interest or pleasure in things, it may be a sign of depression. • If you are feeling depressed or hopeless, it may be a sign you could use some help. • Some mothers feel depressed and overwhelmed after giving birth. • Can you answer a few more questions so that we can refer you to the appropriate resources, if necessary?
Family Needs: Domestic Violence Thinking about the past 3 months, has a partner threatened, shoved, hit or kicked you or hurt you physically in any way? **If YES**	• There is a strong connection between domestic violence and child abuse. • If you do not feel safe with your partner, protect yourself and your child by telling someone close to you and seeking available resources in your community.
Family Needs: Alcohol & Substance Abuse Thinking about the past 3 months, have you had 4 or more drinks in one day? **If YES**	• If you feel you should cut back on your drinking or drug use, we have resources to help you. • As a caregiver, you have a major impact on your child's health. • If you are impaired due to alcohol or drugs, you will not be able to care for your child as effectively as they need. • Also, there is an increased risk of child death with caregivers who have problems with drugs and/or alcohol.
Family Needs: Alcohol & Substance Abuse Thinking about the past 3 months, have you, or another person in your household, used a recreational drug or a prescription medication for non-medical reasons? **If YES**	• As a caregiver, you have a major impact on your child's health. • If you are impaired due to alcohol or drugs, you will not be able to care for your child as effectively as they need. • Also, there is an increased risk of child death with caregivers who have problems with drugs and/or alcohol. • Ingestion of drugs – legal or illegal – can be fatal to children. • Keep any drugs or medication locked up and out of the reach of children. • Naloxone is a medication that reverses the effects of opioid drugs/medication (heroin, fentanyl, Percocet, etc.) and is available for free, without a prescription.
CAR SEAT SAFETY QUESTIONS	
Car Seat Safety How is your child restrained while riding in a car? **UNLESS** **Car seat or booster seat** **My child never rides in a car**	• For children ***1 to 3 years old***, keep your child rear-facing in the back seat of a moving vehicle for as long as possible. • **Your child should remain in a rear-facing car seat until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by your car seat's manufacturer.** • For children ***4 to 7 years old***, keep your child in a forward-facing car seat with a harness and tether until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by your car seat's manufacturer. • Once your child outgrows the forward-facing car seat with a harness and tether, it's time to travel in a booster seat, but still in the back seat.
Car Seat Safety In what seat and direction does your child usually ride when in a car? **UNLESS** **Back Seat – Facing Backward**	• An infant carrier or car seat should be used to secure your baby **EVERY** time they ride in a moving vehicle. • **Your child should remain in a rear-facing car seat until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by your car seat's manufacturer.** • 3 out of 4 (75%) car seats are not used correctly. • You should have your car seat installation checked by a car seat technician or specialist.
Car Seat Safety How does your child sit while in the car? **UNLESS** **Rear or forward facing in the back seat** **My child never rides in a car**	• For children ***1 to 3 years old***, keep your child rear-facing in the back seat of a moving vehicle for as long as possible. • **Your child should remain in a rear-facing car seat until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by your car seat's manufacturer.** • For children ***4 to 7 years old***, keep your child in a forward-facing car seat with a harness and tether until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by your car seat's manufacturer.

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	• Once your child outgrows the forward-facing car seat with a harness and tether, it's time to travel in a booster seat, but still in the back seat. • 3 out of 4 (75%) car seats are not used correctly. • You should have your car seat installation checked by a car seat technician or specialist.
SAFE SLEEP QUESTIONS	
Home Safety: Safe Sleep Do you ever sleep with your child in an adult bed or on a couch at nap or night? **If YES**	• The safest place for your baby to sleep is in the room where you sleep, but not in your bed. • Your baby needs their own crib to keep them safe and to develop healthy sleeping habits. • Sleeping with your baby puts them at higher risk for injury or for suffocation. • Breastfeeding is recommended for all infants for as long as possible; however, after feeding, infants should be placed back to sleep in their own crib. • Resources are available to find a crib or pack 'n play for your baby.
Home Safety: Safe Sleep Do you always place your child to sleep on their back for nap and night? **If NO**	• Always place your baby to sleep on their backs during naps and at nighttime. • The side position is just as dangerous as the stomach because babies sleeping on their sides could roll onto their stomachs. • It is important to talk about the safe sleep position with anyone who cares for your baby.
Home Safety: Safe Sleep Does your child ever sleep with objects (e.g., crib bumpers, pillows, blankets, stuffed animals, toys, etc.) in their crib? **If YES**	• Bumper pads, pillows and blankets have led to suffocation deaths in babies. • Your baby should sleep on a firm mattress with only a fitted sheet. Sleep sacks are helpful to keep your child warm. • When done correctly, swaddling can be an effective way to help calm infants and to help them sleep. • Swaddling should not be continued after 2 months of age, when a child is ready to roll over or if the blanket gets loose during sleep.
HOME SAFETY QUESTIONS	
Home Safety: Smoking in the Home Does anyone smoke at home? **If YES**	• Besides the risk of potential fires, smoking in the home can be especially harmful to your children's health. • Children exposed to secondhand smoke have a higher risk of SIDS, more illnesses including ear infections, colds, respiratory problems and asthma. • They may miss more school days due to illness.
Home Safety: Carbon Monoxide & Smoke Alarms Do you have a smoke detector and a carbon monoxide alarm for your home? **If NO**	• Carbon monoxide & smoke alarms should be installed throughout the house, with at least 1 on each level of the house, especially near sleeping areas.
Home Safety: CPR/First Aid Have you taken a course in child lifesaving techniques, such as CPR or First Aid, within the past 3 years? **If NO**	• All caregivers should know CPR and First Aid, spend time with your child prior to being left alone with them and know important contacts and resources in case there is a problem.
Home Safety: Securing Furniture Some types of furniture have the potential to tip over when a child pulls on it or attempts to climb it (e.g., dressers, TVs, etc.). Are all such pieces of furniture in your home secured to the wall? **If NO**	• Large pieces of furniture such as flat screen TVs, book shelves and dressers should be mounted to the wall since they can easily tip over.
Home Safety: Drowning Prevention Does your child ever swim unsupervised with - or without - some type of flotation device? **If YES**	• Drowning can occur quickly and in as little as 2 inches of water. • Drowning is the leading cause of injury death in kids 1- 4 years old. • Never leave your baby alone, or with siblings, in the bathtub. • Never leave your baby near any water, such as buckets or toilets. • Children should always swim with adult supervision, take swimming lessons and wear life jackets. • Swim skills are life skills. Let's talk more about the right age for swimming lessons for ***your*** child.

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Home Safety: Falls Prevention Are there any situations in which you would consider leaving your child alone on a changing table, couch, bed or similar surface? (Such as to answer the phone or grab something you need). **If YES** **Home Safety: Falls Prevention** Do you use safety gates to protect your child at the top and bottom of all stairways in your house? **If NO**	• Babies can roll for the first time at different ages. • Never leave your child on a high surface, such as a bed, changing table, exam table or counter, even if they are in a car seat or bouncy chair. • Safety gates should be installed at the top **AND** bottom of the stairs. • Use wall mounted gates at the top of stairs and pressure mounted or wall mounted gates at the bottom of the stairs.
Home Safety: Burns Prevention Do you ever hold your child while drinking hot liquids (e.g., while standing, sitting or walking)? **If YES**	• Burns are common in young children. • Never carry or handle hot liquids or foods while holding your child, especially coming from the microwave or stove.

Home Safety: Choking Prevention
How likely is your child to get small objects like toy parts, coins, watch batteries, & small pieces of food into their hands? (Consider the possibility of older children leaving these lying around or that your child could reach them somewhere.)
Unless NOT AT ALL LIKELY
	• Your child is too young to play with small objects, such as:
	  ○ Beads
	  ○ Batteries
	  ○ Coins
	  ○ Office supplies, like paper clips or pen caps
	• If it fits inside a toilet paper roll, it could be a choking hazard.

Home Safety: Securing Medication
Are all medications, vitamins and potentially harmful household cleaners in your home secured with safety caps OR out of the reach of children? **If NO**
	• Always keep medications and chemicals locked up and out of your child's reach.
	• Some medications or products can harm a child in very small amounts, such as:
	  ○ Tylenol/Advil
	  ○ Vitamins and supplements
	  ○ Cleaning products

Home Safety: Poison Control Do you know how to contact the Poison Control Center (1-800-222-1222) if your child unintentionally ingests medications, vitamins and other harmful household cleaners/products? **If NO**	• Have the phone number for the local Poison Control Center (1-800-222-1222) by your home phone or programmed into your phone in case of emergenices.
Home Safety: Firearms Safety If you have firearms in the home, are they all unloaded AND in locked storage? **If NO**	• Keep firearms in the home locked and stored in a location away from the ammunition. • Firearm safes/lock boxes act as a barrier so your child can't get to the firearm. • Even without firearms in the home, talk to your children about firearms safety, because they will likely be in another home where a firearm is present.
Home Safety: Marijuana Safety If you have marijuana in the home, is it in locked storage? **If NO**	• Store safely or not at all. The best way to keep your children safe from marijuana edibles is to keep them out of your home. • If you do have them in your home, store them in a safe place away from your children where they will not simply come across them. Lock boxes act as a barrier so your child can't get to the marijuana and supplies. • Treat them like any other medications – stored up, away, and out of sight – in a locked cabinet, lockbox, or safe is best. • Children can experience a variety of symptoms after eating these products, ranging from drowsiness, confusion, unsteady gait, and vomiting to having difficulties breathing, seizures, becoming comatose and requiring intensive medical care and monitoring.

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