

# Questions to Help Assess Needs and Safety Within the Home

## QUESTIONS TO ASK FAMILIES

**Q:** Is now a good time to talk? If not, is there a better time for me to call?

Potential follow-up questions:

- Is everyone OK? Is there someone I can call for you?
- Are there any safety concerns for you or your children? Do you need help right now?

**Q:** How are things going with your child's education at home?

- What is going well?
- Is your child struggling with schoolwork?
- Do you have any concerns you would like to discuss?

**Q:** Is everyone able to get what they need to get by? (Examples include food, clothing, housing, medical care) Have there been any problems?

Potential follow-up questions:

- Are you able to access what you need to care for your family? What would help?
- Who can help you? Do you have supportive family, friends or neighbors to help you and your children?

**Q:** What's it like for your family to be staying home without any breaks? How is everyone getting along with each other?

Potential follow-up questions:

- How is everyone passing the time? Do you have activities you do together? Do you need ideas?
- How are you providing downtime or "away" time for family members when needed?
- How is everyone coping with stress? Are you finding it difficult to bounce back or manage?
- Is anyone having a hard time? What seems to be bothering them the most? What makes it better or worse?

**Q:** How are things going with your child's behavior and social or emotional health?

Potential follow-up questions:

- Have you noticed changes in your child's behavior? Are you concerned?
- Who were your children connected to outside the home before the pandemic? How are they staying in touch with their friends?
- Does your child seem more anxious, scared or depressed?
- Do you have social, emotional or mental health supports if needed?

# Questions to Help Assess Needs and Safety Within the Home

## QUESTIONS TO ASK STUDENTS

**Q:** Tell me about how things are going at home. How are things going for you?

Potential follow-up questions:

- Are you feeling OK?
- Are you worried about anything?

**Q:** Who is taking care of you? How are they doing?

Potential follow-up questions:

- Who makes sure you have everything you need? What do they do?
- Where do you sleep at night? Does anyone else sleep with you? Do you sleep well?
- Who wakes you up in the morning?
- Who takes care of you when you get hurt? What do they do?
- Who goes out and gets food for you? What do you like to eat? Who makes your meals? Who do you eat with?

**Q:** How is everyone getting along with each other? Is anyone having a hard time?

Potential follow-up questions:

- Who lives or stays in your home (including pets)? Who visits?
- Are you worried about anyone? Why?
- How can you tell when someone in your home is having a hard time? What do they do? What makes them feel better?

**Q:** Tell me about what you do all day.

Potential follow-up questions:

- What things do you like to do at home? What don't you like to do?
- Do you have responsibilities at home? What are they?