# Safety & Dignity for Families

When problems between parents escalate into confrontations and violence that children may witness, the effect can be devastating with long term impacts on the child. In families that have experienced domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, or child abuse and neglect, children can suffer emotional and physical harm when they have unsupervised contact with the offending parent, or when they witness conflict occurring between their parents.

CFS' Safe Haven program promotes the safety, security, and dignity of all family members. Staggered arrival times, separate entrances, and other safety measures assure the physical and emotional well-being of children and adults, in a space where children can build safe, positive relationships with both of their parents.

Our child welfare, counseling, and shelter programs are accredited by CARF International, assuring the more than 2,500 businesses, individuals, and organizations who contributed to our work last year of our commitment to clinical, administrative, and





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## Safe Haven **Supervised Visitation**

Safe Child Exchange



## What is Safe Haven?

Families use Safe Haven because of conflict between parents, for reunification after a parent's long absence, or due to past domestic abuse, stalking, sexual abuse, or violence. At Safe Haven, parents never see

or interact with each other. All scheduling of visits and exchanges is done through Safe Haven staff, easing the stress on parents, and on kids who can often get caught in the middle.

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Safe Haven helped us survive the breakup of our family and gave us shelter and strength.

-Debra, Safe Haven client

#### How do l use Safe Haven?

Families may be referred to Safe Haven by the courts, an attorney, a counselor, Friend of the Court, MDHHS, or even themselves. You may contact Safe Haven directly to ask them questions about the program or to schedule an intake. Safe Haven will initiate contact with you within 48 hours after a referral or court order is received (there may be a delay between when a verbal order is made in court vs. when the written court order is received at Safe Haven.)

Fees for services, if any, are determined at your orientation and are based on grant eligibility, family income, and family size. Safe Haven receives some grant funding and donations to subsidize the costs of services offered.

### **CFS** mission

Our services support the safety and well-being of children, youth, adults, and families in times of challenge, crisis, and life transition.

This project is supported by Grant No. 2015-VA-GX-0044 awared to Child and Family Services of NW Michigan, Inc. by the Michigan Crime Victim Services Commission. The agreement award of \$435,521 (80 percent of the project), comes from the Federal Crime Victims Fund, established by the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 administered by the Office for Victims of crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Dept. of Justice. Child & Family Services of NW Michigan, Inc. provides the required match valued at \$87,104 by teh use of volunteers (820 of volunteer hours) and case match fromo donor contributions.

# What families can expect

Each parent completes a separate, one hour orientation so you know exactly what to expect before your first visit or exchange. Separate, age -appropriate orientations are also recommended for children to ease any fears. Safe Haven staff work with parents separately to determine a schedule for supervised visitations or safe exchanges that complies with court orders and meets center availabilty. All visits and exchanges take place at Child and Family Services.

To learn more about Safe Haven, call 231-946-8975 x1013 or visit cfsnwmi.org/safe-haven

