
NAVIGATING THE INTRICACIES WHILE PLANNING FOR AND SUPERVISING COMPLEX CASES

Presenters:

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Brayden
SUPERVISION SERVICES INC.

OVERVIEW: BRAYDEN SUPERVISION SERVICES

Our commitment to safe, successful, child-
focused supervised visitation

Experience: Over 30 years in the field

OVERVIEW OF BRAYDEN SUPERVISION SERVICES

Services and Clients

Services

Supervised Parenting Time
Supportive Parenting Time
Virtual Monitoring/Supervised Virtual
Supervised transfers

Clients

Brayden referrals range from court orders, separation agreements, parental agreements, child welfare, etc.

Non-residing parents with circumstances that may impact their parenting capacity such as, criminal charges (IPV), sexual offences (ie sex offender registry), substance misuse, mental health challenges, separated/divorced parents, families involved with child welfare, Hague Convention, etc.

BRAYDEN SUPERVISORS

Qualifications

- ☐ University degree or college diploma in psychology, family studies, child and youth work, or related field
- ☐ Thoroughly screened through their references
- ☐ A current Vulnerable Sector Check
- ☐ They bring experience in working with families and children
- ☐ Present with a neutral, non-judgemental approach to ensure safe and child-centred visit
- ☐ Complete annual renewals

OVERVIEW OF BRAYDEN SUPERVISION SERVICES

Benefits of Individualized Supervision Services

Locations:

Brayden Centers in Ontario (Burlington, Etobicoke, Barrie) and Nova Scotia. These are single family rooms.

Supervision happens in the community and in-home

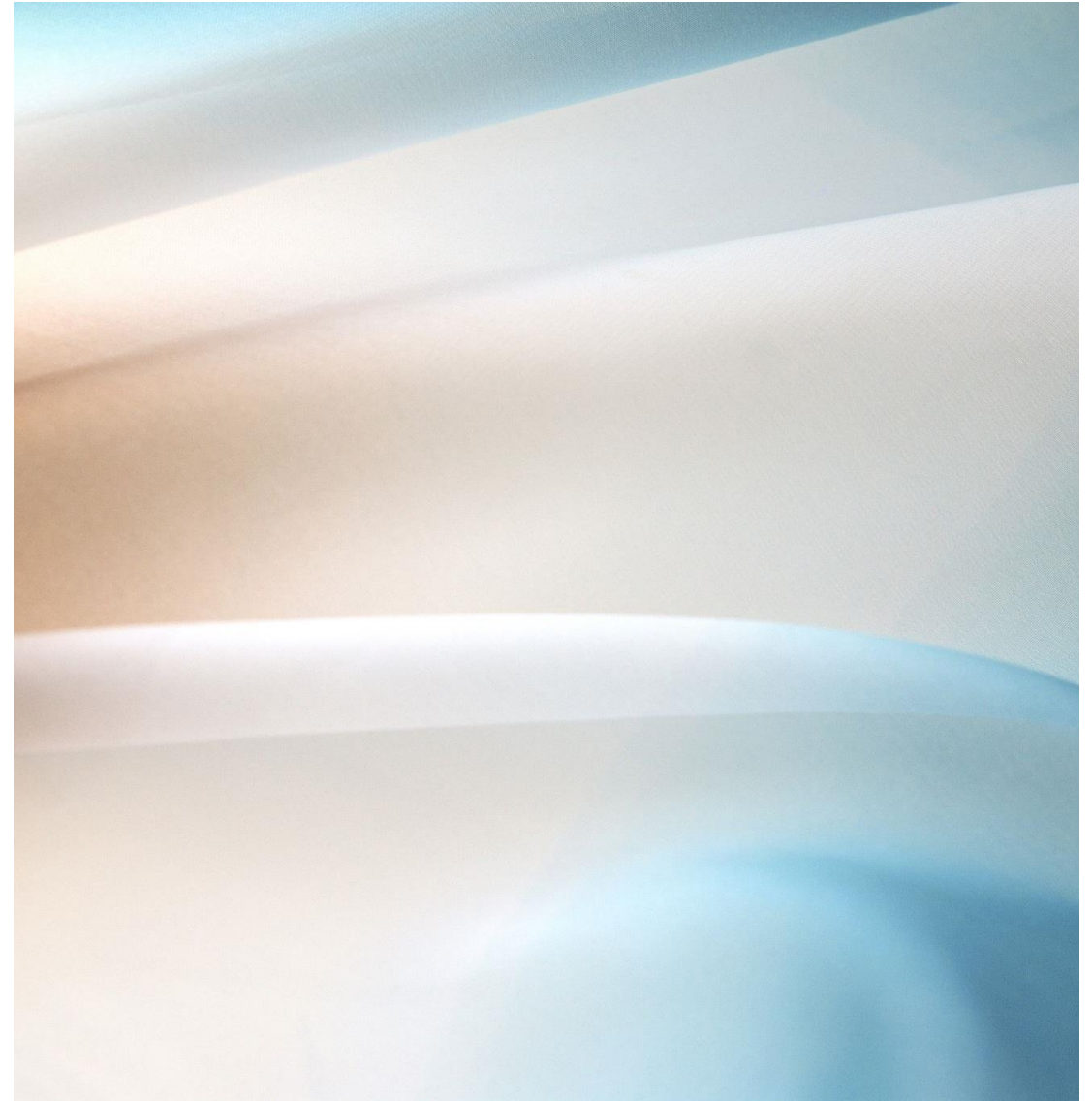
Families who have been approved community and in-home parenting time will receive;

- ☐ Same level of service in the community and in-home as In-Centre
- ☐ Eyesight and earshot of Non-Residing Parent always (ie washroom plans)
- ☐ Familiar environment supporting a child-focused visit
- ☐ Non-residing parent can attend children's activities (Graduation, athletic event, etc)

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

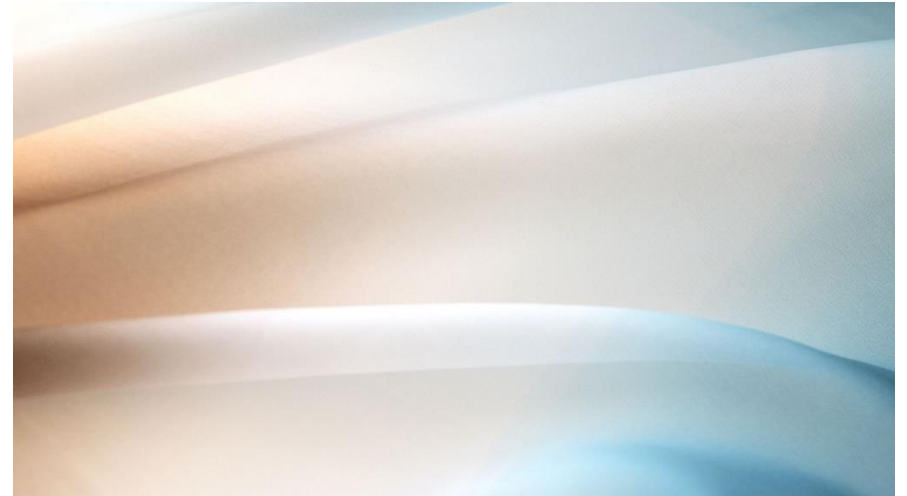
PARTICIPANTS WILL:

1. KNOW HOW TO IMPLEMENT A CHILD-FOCUSED SUPERVISED VISITATION MODEL.
 2. REFLECT ON BALANCING SAFETY, JUDICIAL REQUIREMENTS, AND CHILD WELFARE.
 3. IDENTIFY STRATEGIES TO THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX FOR COMPLEX CASE PLANNING.
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SUPERVISED SERVICES DOES NOT REPLACE UNSUPERVISED, FULL PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY TIME, BUT AS A GOAL;

- It helps protect children
- Maintains relationships
- Promotes emotional well-being
- Reduces stress
- Contributes to mental health resilience in children
- Supports families who are in higher risk separation/divorce where decisions need to be made regarding parenting and/or co-parenting



CORE ELEMENTS OF BRAYDEN SUPERVISION SERVICES

NEUTRAL THIRD-PARTY SUPERVISION

Neutral Third-Party Supervision

- Neutral third party signifies that we do not represent or advocate for either party
- Brayden follows court order conditions and agreements between parents/parties. (ie Child Welfare)
- Parents/parties involved are held to the agreements by their lawyers
- There is no conflict of interest between service directors and supervisors with the family
- Use of several supervisors to support the role of neutrality
- Eyesight and earshot always, supervisor's role is not to write detailed notes but to always have eyes and ears on parent and child to ensure safety

CORE ELEMENTS OF BRAYDEN SUPERVISION SERVICES

FOCUS ON COMPLEX CASES

Focus on Complex cases

- Non-residing parents with criminal charges
- IPV (Intimate Partner Violence) where the residing parent and children have been impacted by violence in the home
- Non-Residing parents on the sexual offender registry
- Substance Use Health is an issue and requires drug and alcohol monitoring to ensure the non-residing parent is not under the influence during their parenting time
- Mental Health challenges that impact parenting capacity and require someone to be present to support parents and children

CORE ELEMENTS OF BRAYDEN SUPERVISION SERVICES

SAFE, SUCCESSFUL, CHILD
FOCUSED SUPERVISION SERVICE

Safe, Successful, Child Focused Supervision Service

- ☐ Children are at the forefront of the planning
- ☐ Parents/parties follow agreed upon plans
- ☐ Parents can work collaboratively with Brayden staff
- ☐ Parents voice their concerns to inform safety planning
- ☐ Space for parents to have safe, individualized parenting time with their children

CORE ELEMENTS OF BRAYDEN SUPERVISION SERVICES

TRAUMA INFORMED

Trauma Informed

- ☐ Service Directors receive training on Trauma informed practice
- ☐ Service Directors consult with a University of Toronto professor who specializes in Trauma
- ☐ Service Directors match the skill set of supervisors with the family
- ☐ Brayden has policy and procedures geared to support best practices for working with clients on the sexual offender registry
- ☐ Service Directors coordinates with both parents (perpetrator and survivor)

CORE ELEMENTS OF BRAYDEN SUPERVISION SERVICES

TRAUMA INFORMED

Trauma Informed cont'd...

- ☐ Supervisors follow the Service Request and consult with the Service Director
- ☐ Children are at the forefront of all planning and during the supervised parenting time
- ☐ Neutrality - there are 2 sides to every situation that impact the parenting time planning
- ☐ Available to the family through, missed visits, child resist and refuse, scheduling issues, consulting on child-friendly locations if it is in the community

TYPES OF COMPLEX CASES HIGH-RISK FAMILIES:



Accusations and/or sexual charges

Substance Misuse and Mental Health Challenges

Child resistance or refusal

High conflict separation/divorce

IPV (Intimate Partner Violence)

Child Welfare

Hague Convention

Accusations and/or Sexual Charges

- Sexual offender registry: “These include but are not limited to sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching, sexual exploitation, sexual offences against children, incest, bestiality, child pornography, parent or guardian procuring sexual activity, exposure and sexual assault.”*

Substance Misuse and Mental Health Challenges

- Parent struggling with misusing drug and/or alcohol acquiring charges (IPV, child abuse, DUI), Soberlink used

TYPES OF COMPLEX CASES HIGH-RISK FAMILIES:

Accusations
and/or Sexual
Charges

Substance Misuse
and Mental Health
Challenges

* <https://globalnews.ca/news/9655528/canada-sex-offender-registry-explainer/>

Child Resistance or Refusal Examples *

- Children are caught in the middle
- Parents make their child choose
- Parents question their child about the other parent's lifestyle or relationships
- Parents make promises that they don't keep
- Parents who drop in and out of their child's life
- Parents are inconsistent in using their parenting time

TYPES OF COMPLEX CASES HIGH-RISK FAMILIES:

Child Resistance or Refusal

*<https://cac-cae.ca/wp-content/uploads/90.-Part-B-Protecting-Children-from-being-Weaponized-in-the-Context-of-High-Conflict-Family-Court-Disputes.pdf>

High conflict separation/divorce

- Do not follow court orders
- No agreements, for plan
- No agreement for decision making during parenting time
- Want notes to prove unfit parent

IPV, Child Welfare, Hague Convention

- Safety Planning
- Trauma-informed
- CAS ordered, judge orders Neutral Third-Party supervision
- Work closely with CAS to inform the planning based on their concerns

TYPES OF COMPLEX CASES HIGH-RISK FAMILIES:

High conflict
separation/divorce

IPV (Intimate
Partner Violence)

Child Welfare

The Hague Convention and Supervised Parenting Time

- ❑ Protects children from international abduction and ensures custody in the child's home country
- ❑ Preserves the parent-child bond
- ❑ Supervised parenting time provides safe, structured contact during or after Hague proceedings, that meets international obligations (Conventions goals)

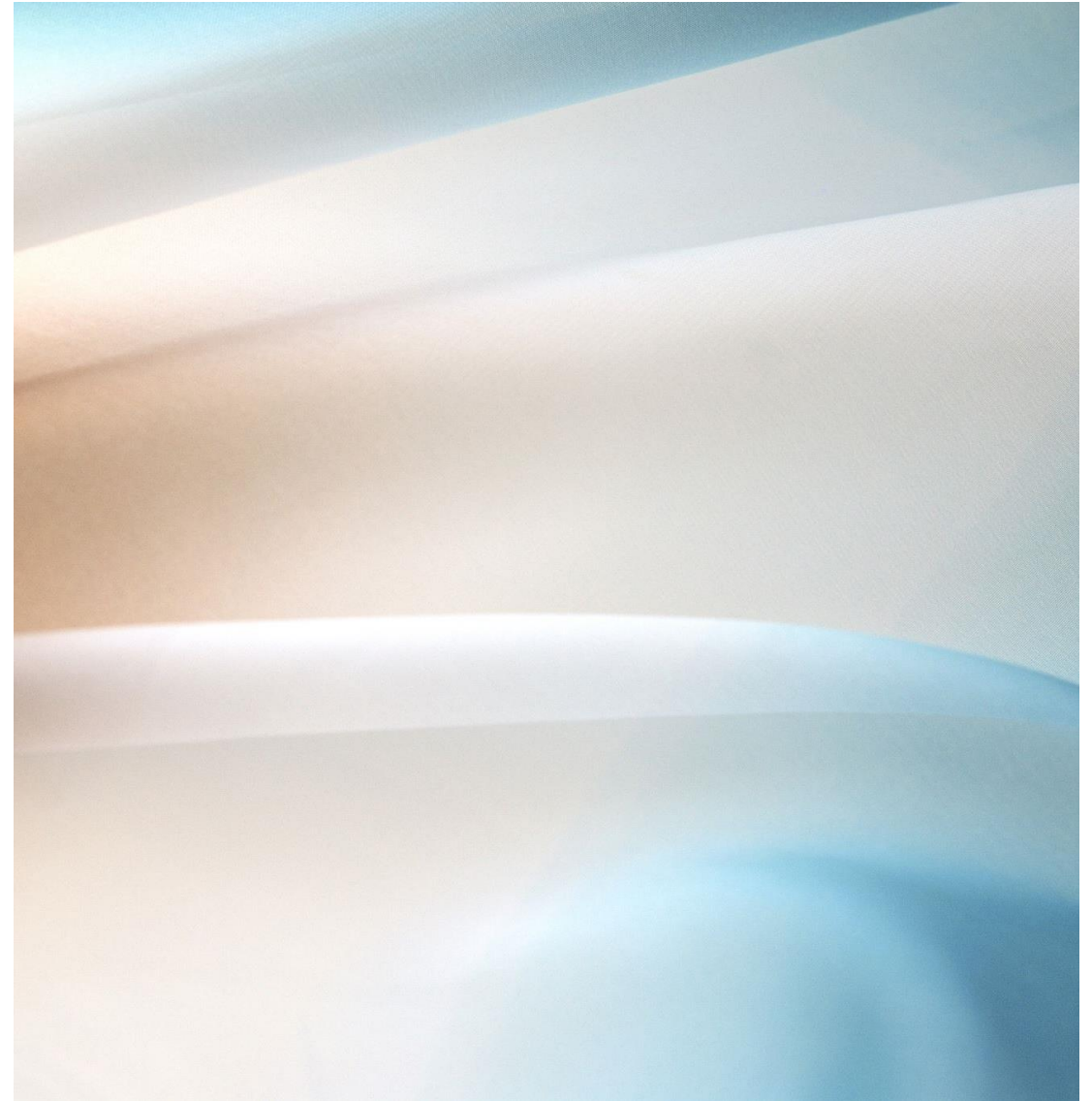
TYPES OF COMPLEX CASES HIGH-RISK FAMILIES:

Hague
Convention

COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS:

ENSURING SAFETY

- ☐ Courts implement visitation orders
 - ☐ Child welfare agencies requiring neutral third-party supervision
 - ☐ Lawyers and the Office of the Children's Lawyer (OCL)
 - ☐ Mental health professionals (Social workers, psychologists, counselling/therapists, etc)
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Recognizing Unique Family Experiences

Each family's needs are unique and require tailored supervision plans.

Referrals begin with online intake forms and are addressed in order by;

- 1. Referral Coordinator**
- 2. Service Director**
- 3. Supervisor assignment**

PERSONALIZED FAMILY APPROACHES

CHILDREN'S SAFETY IS ALWAYS #1 PRIORITY

RECOGNIZING UNIQUE FAMILY EXPERIENCES

– REFERRAL STAGE (REFERRAL COORDINATOR)

Balancing Court Orders with Family Needs

Family circumstances can change

Service Directors coordinates with parents to find amicable ways to schedule supervision services

Service Directors complete thorough intake and communicate the agreed upon plans between parents

To remain neutral, Service Directors refer parents to lawyers if there are disagreements

PERSONALIZED FAMILY APPROACHES

CHILDREN'S SAFETY IS ALWAYS #1 PRIORITY

BALANCING COURT ORDERS WITH FAMILY
NEEDS - INTAKE STAGE (SERVICE DIRECTOR)

Tailored Support to Promote Safety and Wellbeing

- Service Directors are on-call for active supervision services, supporting parents and supervisors
- Service Directors collaborate with supervisors for feedback on plans
- Service Directors are available to parents throughout their time

PERSONALIZED FAMILY APPROACHES

CHILDREN'S SAFETY IS ALWAYS #1 PRIORITY

TAILORED SUPPORT TO PROMOTE SAFETY AND WELL-BEING

- SERVICE DIRECTOR AND SUPERVISOR
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Termination of Service

- ☐ Service plan conditions are not being followed regularly (ie not being in eyesight/ear shot)
- ☐ There is no longer any trust, and they are not working with Brayden

Termination of Parenting Time

- ☐ Parent is under the influence
- ☐ Parent is refusing to adhere to redirection from the supervisor or service director (ie Negative talk about the other parent, not working with the Service Director for safe parenting time planning)

TERMINATION OF PARENTING TIME AND/OR SERVICES

GROUP VS INDIVIDUAL SUPERVISION: DIFFERENCES

GROUP	INDIVIDUAL
Contact between families	Private family time

Discussion Questions

- ☐ What is the reason for referral?
- ☐ What are the questions you would ask parents on the intake call for clarification?
- ☐ What safety concerns would you address with parents?
- ☐ What suggestions could you offer to make children feel safe?

LEARNING FROM HIGH-CONFLICT CASES SPECIFIC CASE CHALLENGES SCENARIO

2 BOYS – AGE 9 AND 11. NO PARENTING INVOLVEMENT WITH DAD IN 8 MONTHS.

CHILDREN FRIGHTENED OF FATHER DUE TO HISTORY OF AGGRESSION WHEN PAIRED WITH ALCOHOL USE

CHILDREN INVOLVED IN THE ADULT CONFLICT

COURT ORDERED FOR 2 TIMES A WEEK IN PERSON PARENTING TIME
CHILDREN REFUSED ALL TIME

OUTCOME - HOW DID WE PIVOT? WHERE ARE WE NOW?

Discussion Questions

- ☐ What is the reason for referral?
- ☐ What are the questions you would ask child welfare on the intake call for clarification?
- ☐ What safety concerns would you address with adopted parents and child welfare?
- ☐ What suggestions could you offer to make children feel safe?
- ☐ Are the children protected, will this plan ensure a safe and successful visit?

LEARNING FROM HIGH-CONFLICT CASES

SPECIFIC CASE CHALLENGES

SCENARIO

- Indigenous parents diagnosed with paranoid schizophrenia had two children, each apprehended separately by child welfare.
 - The eldest child was adopted.
 - When the adoptive parents learned the second child was also apprehended, they agreed to keep the siblings connected—on the condition that child welfare funded supervised parenting time with the biological parents.
 - Child welfare approved quarterly visits each year.
 - Visits were scheduled in the community, on Saturdays at the same time.
 - Biological parents declined bus transportation and chose to walk to the visits.
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**- THE IMPACT OF BRAYDEN'S CHILD-
FOCUSED APPROACH**

**- THE IMPACT OF TRAUMA-INFORMED
APPROACH FOR
PARENTS/CAREGIVERS & CHILDREN**

**- ENCOURAGEMENT TO ADOPT A
PRACTICE PRIORITIZING CHILD
SAFETY**

**- COMMITMENT TO IMPROVING
SUPERVISED VISITATION PRACTICES**



**CREATING SAFE AND
SUCCESSFUL
PARENTING TIME FOR
FAMILIES**



**QUESTIONS
& ANSWERS**

Brayden

SUPERVISION SERVICES INC.



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