

Appendix A
Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment

Person Details

Mass Health ID Number: xxxxxxxxxx

Name: Tisha Viera

Age: 2

Race: Caucasian

Primary Language: English

Current Living Situation: Single mom

Client's Mass health Plan: xxxxxxxx

Enrollment: 6-11-2010

Date of Birth: 05/08/2008

Gender: Female

Ethnicity: Hispanic

Language at Home: English

Other: Brother - AJ, also enrolled

Child CANS Information

Certified Assessor: Laurie Beckel

Phone Number: xxx-xxx-xxxx

Is Currently Enrolled in ICC: Yes

Place of Assessment: Home and Community

Level of Care: ICC

Employer: Child and Family Focus

NPI Reason

Other

Diagnosis

Axis I: 314.0 – ADHD

Axis II: none

Axis III: none

Axis IV: problems related to early care and education

Axis V: 54

	0	1	2	3
Diagnostic Certainty			X	
Prognosis			X	

SED Determination

1. Does the child meet the part 1 SED criteria? Yes
2. Does the child meet the part 2 SED criteria? Yes

Signature

Date

Family Strengths Needs and Culture Discovery

Date: July 21, 2010

CSA: Child and Family Focus

Care Coordinator: Laurie Beckel

Family Partner: Edie Martinez

Information gathered from: Mariam, Anthony and AJ Viera, Tina Jones (Child Welfare Case Worker, Keith Overhouse (probation officer), and Samuel Wilkerson (therapist)

Family Vision: We are the best parents we know how to be. Tisha's behavior is greatly improved and we have more fun together.

Life Domains and CANS Scores

Family and Residential

Family	2	Optimism	1	Housing Stability	0
Parenting Roles	0	Resiliency	1	Parental Supervision	2
Family Identity	1	Family Stress	2	Parental Organization	1

Mariam and Anthony Sr. were married six months before AJ was born. AJ's biological father had a very short relationship with Mariam and is no longer in the picture. Anthony and Mariam decided to name the baby after Anthony and call him AJ. Anthony has been the father ever since. Mariam and Anthony were married for 12 ½ years prior to divorce. They divorced a year and a half ago and they both love their children and are trying to work together to raise them. Tisha is two years old and enjoys being with both parents.

Tisha loves her mother and has to be very physically close to her at all waking moments. When Mariam got help from a home aide from the local clinic, Tisha responded well to lots of praise and attention from Mariam and reduced her public defecation and aggression, but Mariam is too overwhelmed to keep the praise and attention at such high rates. Tisha likes to be with her dad, but he is struggling with her behaviors and is very open about not knowing how to handle her. Both parents want Tisha to be a normal girl but know that she is not, and both seem to understand Tisha's ADHD. They both feel considerable stress from her behaviors.

Mariam was largely raised by her grandmother who was always there for her. Her parents had many marital challenges around money, jobs, and domestic violence. Mariam knows she has caused challenges for her kids with her own drinking and divorce from Anthony. It is important to her to be there for her kids like her grandmother was for her, and not let problems she might have influence their parenting. She saw both of her parents bash the other parent to the kids, and she is determined not to do that to her kids.

Extended Family and Natural Supports

Natural Supports	2
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Mariam's best friend is Cara who lives a few houses away. She and Mariam are both in recovery and support each other. They talk daily and get together most days. Cara has a daughter about Tisha's age and they sometimes share childcare but Cara also has trouble with Tisha's behaviors. Mariam has a sister LaRisa who she does not talk to often but who is there for her as a last resort support when she needs child care for Tisha. Mariam is a private person and except for Cara has no close personal friends. She once had a close relationship with her sister but that is no longer true. Her sister feels that Mariam was at fault in the divorce, was a bad mother, and generally blamed Mariam for what has gone wrong in Mariam's life.

Legal

Child Welfare	2	Juvenile Justice	0	Adult Corrections	0
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Mariam and Anthony's divorce was final a year and one-half ago. Mariam has custody of both children, and they work out visitation. When Mariam took Tisha to the clinic, a health worker observed bruises on Tisha, and eventually, after investigation, Child Welfare opened a case. Her case worker is named Tina Jones. In addition, a neighbor made a complaint about hearing Tisha and Mariam screaming. Although Mariam maintains custody, her case worker says further abuse or child endangerment could lead to a foster care placement. Mariam and Anthony do not want that to happen. Tina Jones says she is really worried about Tisha's safety because of her behavior but she says she is very impressed by Mariam's dedication to make it work and that Anthony and Mariam are working to co parent.

Cultural Identity

Cultural Identity	1	Knowledge Congruence	2	Expression of Distress	1
Cultural Rituals	0	Help Seeking Congruence	0	Spiritual Religious	3
Language	0				

The family is multi-racial. The family celebrates traditional American holidays and Anthony's friends have a big Cinco de Mayo day that AJ and his cousin enjoy. Anthony and Mariam respect the helping opinions of the professional staff about AJ's and Tisha's issues, but don't feel comfortable or confident that they can use the information to help Tisha. They are willing to take help offered and openly express their concerns for both their children.

Health and Development

Health of child	0	Developmental disabilities	0	Parental development delay	0
Health of other family	0	Medication adherence	0		

Mariam, AJ and Tisha are healthy and don't have any current medical concerns. They now regularly visit the health department clinic for check-ups as required in the child welfare and juvenile justice plans.

Behavioral and Emotional

School Behavior	0	Oppositional	1	Eating Disorder	0
Psychosis	0	Conduct	2	Personality Disorder	0
Hyperactivity/Impulsivity	3	Adjustment to Trauma	0	Sanction Setting Behavior	0
Depression	0	Emotional Control	2	Parental Mental Health	0
Anxiety	0	Substance Abuse	0	Parental Substance Abuse	1

Tisha does not play well with any children her age. She has been asked to leave several day care settings due to her aggression to other kids and her toileting issues, and often public defecation that seem to be defiance, and done on purpose. When Mariam got help from a home aide from the local clinic, Tisha responded well to lots of praise and attention from Mariam and reduced her public defecation and aggression, but Mariam is too overwhelmed to keep the praise and attention at high rates. Tisha likes to be with her dad, but he is struggling with her behaviors and is very open about not knowing how to handle her. Both parents want Tisha to be a normal girl but know that she is not, and both seem to understand Tisha's ADHD. Tisha was evaluated by a

clinician at the mental health clinic. He diagnosed her with ADHD. A home aide worked with Mariam and it did not work out because Mariam felt blamed. Another aide was assigned and she listened more to Mariam and did not tell her what to do unless Mariam asked for help. The second aide was able to give Mariam some tips which helped, and helped Mariam figure out how to take short breaks.

Mariam began drinking as a teen and then it seemed like she was drinking more and it was causing a problem. When she ended up in the ER with Tisha over a fall that Tisha took, she was aware she was under the effects of alcohol and it scared her. She did not want to be the kind of Mom her mother had been. She knew that Cara had quit drinking with AA. Mariam talked to Cara, and decided AA was not for her due to her need for privacy. Mariam maintains her sobriety by talking to Cara, and Cara has taught her some 12 Step strategies. Mariam is proud of her recovery, but also knows it is shaky due to stress. Mariam is concerned about Anthony's drinking but feels he does not drink when he has the kids. Anthony does not feel that he is an addict.

Independence

Self Care	3	Judgment	1	Parental financial resource	1
Independent living skills	0	Financial Resources	0	Parental involvement	1
Transportation	0				

Tisha requires assistance with dressing, bathing and toileting. She is currently having frequent public defecation which some feel are more behavioral in nature. Tisha has been asked to leave many daycare centers due to her behavior. Mariam received a referral to "Kids Place" which is a special family care and education center for children with special behavioral needs. They soon reported they could not keep her because of the unceasing crying when her mother left, aggression, and purposeful public defecation.

Anthony has his work van which can be used to get to appointments. Mariam and AJ can walk most places they go and are close to the bus line when they need to go further. Cara has a car and they often do their shopping together.

Anthony and Mariam make enough money to meet their needs but it is a month to month challenge to get all the bills paid. They want the best for their children and reach out for help but are not comfortable or confident they have gotten what Tisha needs.

Education and Vocation

School attendance	3	Learning disability	0	Educational system	2
School achievement	3	Educational resource system	3	Vocational	0

Tisha has been placed in multiple early education and care situations and has been asked to leave each one. The combination of her impulsivity, tantrums, aggressive behavior and public defecation has led to these problems.

Mariam finished high school and has worked in several retail and beauty shops since that time. She is a hard worker who got good references. She missed work during her time of heavy drinking, and was laid off from the last few jobs. She has not been able to maintain work due to

not having child care for Tisha. She wants to go to work and earn money because she is using up her small savings. She would like to get more education and says her sister is an LPN, which interests her. She is under so much stress; she reports she does not really know what to do. Anthony holds a steady job as a house painter. He is happy with his work.

Social

Social skills	2	Community connections	3
Sexual development	0	Interpersonal skills	2

Mariam has not had time for recreational activities for a few years. She enjoys socializing with Cara. She enjoyed working in the beauty shop where she cleaned up and greeted people when the greeter was cutting hair. She used to enjoy family dinners and outings, but the family has not done any of that for a while. She likes watching movies with AJ. When she and Anthony first got together, she liked to dance and enjoyed quiet time.

Tisha likes to be with her mom and likes one on one attention from any family member. She likes games that have a lot of action, running, swinging her arms, riding the merry go round. She likes to do things with her hands. One of her favorite activities is playing with dough or flour which Mariam gives her when she is cooking. Tisha likes running in the sprinkler. She also likes to play with dolls especially two very large dolls that are as big as she is. She will drag them around the house. She has a dress she really likes to wear and can become upset when not allowed to wear it every day. She will do large puzzle activities with Anthony and other large motor activities with AJ. Cara says that at her house she likes to push around a toy shopping cart and the small fold-up baby stroller.

Tisha will sometimes “play” in parallel with other children and does her best around Cara’s daughter. She does not share and does not seem very interested in doing things with other children. She cannot be left unattended except in a safe, enclosed space.

Mariam gets along well with others and has enjoyed jobs where she is around other people. She has one very close friend, Cara, who lives right around the corner. Mariam says “Cara is my rock”. Cara is also in recovery from alcohol addiction and has two children. One, Ruby, is about Tisha’s age and although they do not play together due to Tisha’s outbursts, they tolerate each other when their mothers visit or when Cara or Mariam are doing child care for each other. Cara says that Mariam has had a real hard time with alcohol, divorce, AJ, and especially with Tisha, but that she is a strong and positive woman who will see it through. She says that Mariam is the one person who accepts her for who she is and is always there for her.

Mariam dreams of being able to date and to establish another relationship, but knows that until some of her problems get better, there is no way to have a male friend. Anthony is dating but has no serious relationships.

Psychotropic Medication

None at present

Safety

Suicide risk	0	Sexual aggression	0	Fire setting	0
Self mutilation	0	Runaway	0	Bullying	0

Other self harm	0	Delinquent behavior	0	Exploited	0
Danger to others	2				

Tisha does not interact with other children well in group settings and has been aggressive to them hitting and biting them. Mariam has done a good job of not drinking for the last year. When she did drink, there have been safety issues. Mariam, AJ and Anthony have been very frustrated with Tisha's behavior and have expressed enough concern that they could injure her when she is thrashing around. The family is very concerned about Tisha.

Spiritual

The family has not been part of a faith community and has no interest in doing so at this time.

Financial

Mariam, Tisha, and AJ live in a duplex that is satisfactory to her and allows her to save a bit of money so she can stretch her savings. She learned to be thrifty from her Grandmother. She feels the neighborhood is safe enough most of the time and she has enough street smarts to keep her and the kids safe. Her best friend Cara lives a few houses away. Her sister lives less than a mile away. Anthony Sr. lives in a small apartment with two bedrooms and Tisha visits with Anthony for short periods of time because he is unable to control her behavior for longer. Mariam does not have any other friends in the neighborhood. Mariam is sometimes overwhelmed with all the demands for both children and their related services. She cares deeply about them and has made progress with organizing things so she can manage.

Needs:

- Mariam needs help to take care of Tisha so Mariam can go back to school and get a steady job she enjoys
- Mariam, AJ, and Anthony Sr. need help to better understand Tisha's behavior and help her to be less clingy and less aggressive to others in her environment
- Mariam has a sister nearby she would like to have closer relationship with
- Tisha needs help to control public defecation in preschool, home and the community
- Tisha needs to learn some activities she can do alone or with peers that she enjoys and that allow caregivers to do other needed activities
- Mariam has a need to stay clean from alcohol addiction

Potential Team Members

- Mariam
- Anthony
- AJ
- Nyrell
- Cara
- Tina Jones from Child welfare

The strengths, needs and culture discovery was reviewed and revised as needed by Anthony, Mariam and AJ on July 27, 2010.