

In my third meeting with the Barton family, I focused on the lifespan development group of infancy and childhood individuals, ranging from newborns to age 10. This lifespan development group is crucial in developing physical growth, physical behaviors, and health and wellness. The individuals in these states rely on their family as their support and educators for basic life skills. They also rely on their family and caretakers to provide a safe and nurturing environment. For this lifespan development group, I will focus on the youngest Barton daughter and the newborn of the oldest Barton daughter. The Barton's are currently living with their great-grandmother in her home.

### Follow up

Before I conduct an assessment and refer services to accommodate the youngest Barton daughter and the first Barton grandchild, I will do a brief follow-up with the referrals I suggested to the great-grandmother, father, mother, and boyfriend. The great-grandmother has been having a hard time keeping her food down, but has continuously asked for coffee even though she is already holding a cup full. Her family humors her request and refills as requested, but has diluted it with water to last the whole day. The health of the father of the Barton family has worsened since the last meeting, but has followed the recommendation to eat more fiber and created a fruit mash that included oatmeal with butter and mashed fruit that the great-grandmother has also started to consume. The mother of the Barton family reports not following up with the referrals, but is now focused on her first grandson and does not share her bed with her youngest daughter. The Barton's oldest daughter's boyfriend seems a little overwhelmed with his son being born prematurely and reports to continue working fulltime on his family's seed farm.

**Comment [jk1]:** Good idea

**Comment [jk2]:** Sentence needs to be re-structured – its not connected...

**Comment [jk3]:** Quite likely – and to be expected...

### Assessment and Identified Needs

The Barton's four-year old daughter is like most little girls her age-very happy a fan of the Little Mermaid, but she has a hard time sleeping at night and occasionally wets the bed.

**Comment [jk4]:** May want to break into a couple different sentences.

When I first met the family, she was sleeping on the couch and fell asleep with the television and lights ~~one~~ on. She shared a bed with her mother for a while, but with her older sister entering her final trimester, ~~she has currently as of October, she has~~ been sharing a bed with her oldest sister. Since sharing her bed with her oldest sister, she has not wet the bed since ~~October~~. Luckily she was sharing a bed with her sister when ~~she~~ Tracie went into labor, and was able to get her help in the middle of the night. She was a little overwhelmed with all the commotion ~~of her older sister going into labor, but her other older sister~~ was able to comfort her. She does not report participating in any social activities or playing with other children her age. The Barton's youngest daughter is in need of medical, interventions to deal with bed wetting, social activities, education, clothing, nourishment, and housing.

**Comment [jk5]:** May be easier to read and flow better if you used their names...

The newest member of the Barton family is the oldest daughter's son who was born prematurely, but is in relatively good health. His parents are in need of services to better take care of him and to provide a safe and nurturing environment. He is in need of medical care, parental education courses for his family, clothing, nourishment, and housing.

### Referrals and Anticipated Outcomes

~~Both children are in need of assistance to meet her various needs.~~ Both children are in need of similar services to meet their needs, but their parents are responsible for following through with these referrals. I have suggested that the Barton parents, their oldest daughter, and her boyfriend ~~to~~ apply for assistance through the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), who provide an array of services to children and adults; including medical programs,

childcare services, and nourishment. There are also several local organizations that provide other beneficial services.

### Medical

Sigelman & Rider (2008) noted that “children’s health is influenced by a multitude of factors, some of which are beyond their control” (p. 141). I would strongly advise her to apply for DSHS medical benefits to seek assistance in medical checkup and coping with the youngest daughter’s bedwetting issues. The Barton’s youngest daughter is in her growing years, where her “bones continue to grow and harden and the muscle strengthen” (Sigelman & Rider, 2008, p. 140). I have also suggested that the Barton parents express their concerns about their daughter’s bed wetting issues with her doctor to seek any potential alternatives they may be able to suggest. I have also emphasised that they should be consistent in following up with any immunization shots required during these first several years in preparation for their child attending school or any childcare programs. Good ideas

Due to the premature birth of the newest member of the Barton family, he should be monitored for any medical concerns. “In the first few months after birth, infants grow rapidly, gaining nearly an ounce of weight a day and an inch in length each month” (Sigelman & Rider, 2008, p. 131). Though the doctors report the baby being released in good health, he is under weight and his parents should call the medical provider withfor any concerns. I would like tohave emphasied-emphasize that “congenital malformations and complications of preterm birth are the leading causes of infant mortality” and that I highly recommend them to follow the medical advise at each well~~s~~ness check-up exams (Sigelman & Rider, 2008, p. 139).

Both paretns-parents have also been referred to apply for medical coverage for all their children through the Apple Health for Kids program. The Apple Health for Kids program is a

Comment [jk6]: Who?

“Washington State initiative aimed at streamlining applications for children’s healthcare coverage” (Apple Health for Kids, 2011).

I do anticipate the Barton parents [being](#) unable to keep up with immunization and medical appointments due to conflicts with work schedules and lack of transportation, but I have referred them to the Island Transit who provides free bus fare throughout Island County.

### **Housing Options**

Both children [are](#) living in a loving home, but there is not enough room for the entire family to live comfortably. I have referred them to inquire more information for their local Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) about their Housing Choice Voucher Program-Section 8. “The housing choice voucher program is the federal government’s major program for assisting very low-income families, the elderly, and the disabled to afford decent, safe, and sanitary housing in the private market” (Housing Choice Voucher Program Section 8, 2011, para. 1). I have also referred both parents to contact Habitat for Humanity of Island County in regards inquiring in partnering up to acquire a Habitat home. If either family is selected by the Family Selection committee, I anticipate the family having adequate housing to meet all their needs (Need a Home?, 2011). I anticipate both parents reluctant to move out of the home to stay closer to their family for support. [Good idea to consider housing as well...](#)

### **Education and Social Activities**

Both children are in need of nurturing and safe environment that will encourage them to develop their motor skills and physical behaviors along with providing them social interaction through educational programs. They will be in need of childcare while their parents are at work. The local school district provides programs from birth to age 5, along with their traditional grade school levels through the Toddler Learning Center. Both programs require the child to be

evaluated on how prepared they are for the school system and/or if they have any developmental delays that need to be addressed (Options For Your Preschol Child, 2011). These programs are free of charge, but there are limited openings.

The DSHS provides a Working Connection Child Care Program to help families with their child care fees. This program has various requirements as to what they consider an approved child care provider, but the service does allow them to work without the stress of who will watch their children (Working Connections Child Care, 2011).

The Barton's oldest daughter is currently staying at home to tend to her newborn, her youngest sibling, and her great-grandmother. She takes advantages of the weather and goes on outing as often as she is able to do so. The great-grandmother is elated when she gets to hold her great-great-grandson. I have referred her to attend the free programs offered by the Sno-Isle Library; including the reading time, art activities, and concerts (Schedule of Events, 2011). This will not only suffice their social interaction with other children their age, but also help guide them in learning to behave themselves in the public and in a group setting.

I anticipate both parents following up with utilizing the school district and library programs, but express some hesitation on applying for the DSHS child care program. The Barton's oldest daughter is currently staying at home and taking care of both children at home and the family may prefer to not have their children be taken care of by another person.

### **Clothing & Nourishment**

Both children are in need of proper clothing to get through the seasons; which could be acquired through local thrift stores, churches, and the non-profit organization, such as Rice Bowl Ministries, which ~~who~~ provides for free clothing to the community. There are also several food

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banks, churches that provide community meals, and community gardens where they can get hold of other nutrition items for their family. [Good, practical suggestion](#)

I have referred them to DSHS to apply for Basic Food program and inquire in other local resources to provide a well-balanced meal (Food Help, 2011). Along with the DSHS benefits, I have also referred them to the Island County Public Health Department to apply for the Women Infant Child (WIC) program. WIC nutrition education for “pregnant or breastfeeding women, infants who are breastfed or formula-fed, and children up to age 5 to help safe guard their health...including referrals to other health, welfare and social services” (WIC Program, 2011).

[WIC is a great idea](#)

The oldest daughter and her boyfriend could also inquire with Pregnancy Care Clinic who provides free formula and diapers for infants (First Giving, 2011). I anticipate both children having a well-balanced meal through these resources and adequate clothing to get through the spring season.

I anticipate the family being able to provide adequate amount of food for the entire family with the support of these local services. Sigelman & Rider (2008) noted that “nutrition continues to be an important contributor to health throughout childhood...parents can help by regularly offering a variety of health foods and modeling healthy eating habits” (p. 141).

#### **Plan of Action**

I will meet with the Barton family once more prior to their discharge from our services. I will follow-up on the referred services for the Barton’s youngest daughter and their oldest daughter’s newborn son as well as focusing on adolescence during their next consultation. I will assess the Barton’s three children and refer appropriate services to meet her daily needs.

I think you are getting at some good resources for the family here – As noted, there are a lot of grammatical errors and typos, etc... A careful proofing may clean up, and greatly strengthen the paper. It would be great to see some more about the stage of development itself – a bit more about what to expect of someone in this stage would be useful/helpful, and give more power to the paper. Not sure if this was the case, but it seems rushed. May want to take advantage of having someone else look it over for you. 6.5

Reference

*Apple Health for Kids*. (2011). Retrieved from Washington Apple Health for Kids:

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*First Giving*. (2011). Retrieved from Pregnancy Care Clinic: <http://www.firstgiving.com/ppc>

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[http://www.islandcountyhabitat.org/index.php?pageID=5530\\_2](http://www.islandcountyhabitat.org/index.php?pageID=5530_2)

*Options for your preschool child*. (2011). Retrieved from Oak Harbor School District:

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*Schedule of Events*. (2011). Retrieved from Sno-Isle Library:

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[http://www.islandcounty.net/health/wic\\_program.htm](http://www.islandcounty.net/health/wic_program.htm)

*Working Connections Child Care*. (2011). Retrieved from Department of Social and Health

Services: <http://www.dshs.wa.gov/onlinecso/wccc.shtml>

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