

Understanding The Borderline Mother

Understanding The Borderline Mother Understanding the Borderline Mother Navigating the complexities of a mother with borderline personality traits can be a challenging and emotionally taxing experience. Many individuals find themselves grappling with unpredictable behaviors, intense emotional reactions, and unstable relationships with their mothers. Gaining a deeper understanding of what it means to be a borderline mother is essential for those seeking clarity, healing, or better ways to cope. This article explores the characteristics of borderline mothers, the impact on their children, and strategies for managing such relationships effectively.

What Is a Borderline Mother?

Defining Borderline Personality Disorder (BPD) Borderline Personality Disorder is a mental health condition characterized by pervasive instability in moods, self-image, relationships, and behavior. Individuals with BPD often experience intense episodes of anger, depression, and anxiety that can last a few hours to days. When a mother exhibits traits aligned with BPD, her parenting style and interactions can be deeply affected.

Traits of a Borderline Mother A borderline mother may display the following characteristics:

- Intense fear of abandonment
- Unstable and stormy relationships with her children
- Rapid mood swings
- Impulsive behaviors that affect the family environment
- Difficulty managing emotions, leading to emotional outbursts
- Idealization and devaluation of her children
- Chronic feelings of emptiness or worthlessness

It is important to recognize that not all mothers with borderline traits are diagnosed with BPD, but their behaviors can still significantly influence family dynamics.

Understanding the Behavioral Patterns of a Borderline Mother

Emotional Instability and Reactivity Borderline mothers often react intensely to situations, sometimes overreacting or withdrawing suddenly. This emotional reactivity can create confusion and insecurity in their children.

Fear of Abandonment and Clinginess A hallmark trait is an overwhelming fear of being abandoned or rejected. This may manifest as:

1. Clinging behavior
2. Jealousy
3. Accusations of betrayal
4. Over-monitoring or controlling tendencies

These behaviors are often driven by deep-seated fears rather than malicious intent.

Idealization and Devaluation Borderline mothers may oscillate between seeing their children as perfect and then devaluing or criticizing them. This "splitting" can cause children to feel loved one moment and rejected the next.

Impulsivity and Risk-Taking Impulsive actions, such as sudden outbursts, reckless decisions, or substance use, can destabilize the household environment and cause additional stress.

The Impact of a Borderline Mother on Children

Psychological Effects Children of borderline mothers may experience:

- Low self-esteem and self-worth
- Difficulty trusting others
- Fear of abandonment and rejection
- Emotional dysregulation
- Development of anxiety or depression

Relationship Challenges These children might struggle with forming stable relationships in adulthood due to early attachment issues. They may also develop codependent tendencies or fear intimacy.

Behavioral

and Developmental Concerns In some cases, children may react to their mother's unpredictability by acting out or 3 withdrawing, leading to behavioral problems or developmental delays. Managing Relationships with a Borderline Mother Setting Healthy Boundaries Establishing boundaries is crucial for self-protection and emotional well-being: Define what behavior you will accept and what you won't1. Communicate boundaries clearly and calmly2. Enforce boundaries consistently3. Practicing Self-Care Prioritize your mental and emotional health: Seek therapy or counseling for support Engage in activities that promote relaxation and joy Build a support network of friends or support groups Understanding and Compassion While it is vital to protect yourself, recognizing that borderline behaviors stem from underlying mental health struggles can foster compassion. Remember, you cannot change your mother, but you can control your reactions. Seeking Professional Help Therapy options such as cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT), dialectical behavior therapy (DBT), or family therapy can be beneficial both for your mother and for you. Professional support can provide tools to navigate complex emotions and relationships. Healing and Moving Forward Recognizing Your Experience Acknowledging the pain and confusion caused by a borderline mother is the first step toward healing. Validation of your feelings is essential. Developing Healthy Attachments Work on building secure relationships outside your family, cultivating trust and emotional safety. 4 Embracing Self-Growth Engage in self-reflection, personal development, and possibly therapy to foster resilience and self-understanding. Creating a Supportive Environment Surround yourself with understanding friends, support groups, or mental health professionals who can guide you through your journey. Conclusion Understanding the borderline mother involves recognizing her emotional struggles, behavioral patterns, and their impact on her children. While her actions may be driven by her own unresolved issues and mental health challenges, it is essential to prioritize your well-being. Establishing boundaries, seeking support, and practicing self-care are crucial steps in managing these complex relationships. Remember, healing is possible, and with the right tools and support, you can cultivate a healthier understanding and relationship with your past and present. Keywords: borderline mother, borderline personality disorder, family dynamics, emotional instability, coping strategies, boundaries, self-care, trauma, mental health QuestionAnswer What are the common traits of a borderline mother? A borderline mother often exhibits intense emotional swings, fear of abandonment, difficulty maintaining stable relationships, and may display idealization and devaluation tendencies toward her children. How does having a borderline mother impact a child's emotional development? Children may experience confusion, insecurity, and emotional instability, often feeling anxious about her unpredictable behavior, which can lead to issues with attachment and self-esteem. What are signs that a mother may have borderline personality traits? Signs include intense fear of abandonment, impulsivity, unstable self-image, chronic feelings of emptiness, and rapid shifts in mood and perception of others. Can a child of a borderline mother develop resilience despite the challenges? Yes, with proper support, therapy, and healthy boundaries, children can develop resilience, emotional awareness, and healthy coping skills to navigate and heal from their experiences. How can boundaries help in managing a relationship with a borderline mother? Establishing clear, consistent boundaries helps protect your emotional well-being, prevents manipulation, and creates a sense of

safety in the relationship. 5 What are some therapeutic approaches for children and adults affected by a borderline mother? Therapies like Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT), Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), and trauma- focused therapies can help individuals process their experiences and develop healthy coping mechanisms. Is it possible to break the cycle of borderline behavior in family dynamics? While challenging, with awareness, therapy, and support, family members can work toward healthier communication patterns and emotional regulation, potentially reducing the cycle over generations. How can someone support a friend or family member dealing with a borderline mother? Offer empathetic listening, encourage professional help, set healthy boundaries, and educate yourself about borderline personality traits to provide compassionate support. Understanding the Borderline Mother: A Deep Dive into Complex Maternal Dynamics Navigating the intricacies of maternal relationships can be challenging, especially when the mother exhibits traits associated with borderline personality tendencies. The term "borderline mother" refers to a mother whose behaviors and emotional patterns are influenced by borderline personality disorder (BPD) traits, leading to a tumultuous, unpredictable, and often painful relationship with her children. This comprehensive exploration aims to shed light on what it means to understand the borderline mother, the underlying psychological mechanisms, common behaviors, and ways for individuals to cope and find clarity amid chaos. --- Defining the Borderline Mother What Is a Borderline Mother? A borderline mother is a maternal figure whose emotional and behavioral responses are markedly influenced by traits associated with borderline personality disorder. Unlike the clinical diagnosis that primarily applies to the mother herself, this term often describes the pattern of her interactions with her children—characterized by volatility, impulsivity, fear of abandonment, and intense emotional reactions. Key characteristics include: – Extreme mood swings – Fear of abandonment or rejection – Idealization and devaluation cycles – Impulsivity and unpredictable behaviors – Difficulty maintaining stable relationships – Intense emotional reactions disproportionate to events Why Does This Matter? Understanding the borderline mother is critical because her behaviors significantly impact her children's emotional development, self-esteem, and overall well-being. Recognizing these patterns can help children and adult survivors process their experiences and develop healthier coping mechanisms. --- Understanding The Borderline Mother 6 Psychological Foundations of the Borderline Mother Origins of Borderline Traits The behaviors exhibited by borderline mothers often stem from complex psychological and developmental factors, including: – Early Childhood Trauma or Abuse: Many individuals with BPD have histories of neglect, emotional abuse, or inconsistent caregiving, which hinder the development of a stable sense of self. – Insecure Attachments: Disrupted or insecure early attachments can lead to fears of abandonment and intense emotional reactions. – Genetic and Neurobiological Factors: Some research suggests genetic predispositions and neurobiological differences contribute to BPD traits. Impact on Maternal Behavior These foundational issues manifest in maternal behaviors that are: – Inconsistent: Alternating between over-involvement and emotional withdrawal. – Reactive: Responding impulsively to perceived threats or rejection. – Fearful: Anxious about abandonment, leading to clinginess or suffocating behaviors. – Unpredictable: Difficulty maintaining stable emotional states, resulting in volatile interactions. ---

Common Behaviors and Patterns of the Borderline Mother Emotional Volatility and Mood Swings Borderline mothers often display rapid shifts in mood, which can be confusing and destabilizing for children. These swings might range from intense affection to outright hostility within moments. Examples: – Showering a child with praise one day, then criticizing or withdrawing love the next. – Reacting with anger or despair over minor issues. Fear of Abandonment and Clinginess A core feature is an overwhelming fear of losing loved ones, leading to behaviors such as: – Excessive monitoring or controlling behaviors. – Guilt-tripping children to maintain closeness. – Overreacting to perceived or real signs of distance. Idealization and Devaluation Cycles Borderline mothers may elevate their children to an idealized status, then suddenly devalue them when they perceive a slight or disappointment. Implications: – Children may feel they are never "good enough." – Self-esteem becomes fragile, influenced heavily by the mother's fluctuating perceptions. Understanding The Borderline Mother 7 Impulsivity and Unpredictable Reactions Impulsive actions, such as abrupt criticism, emotional outbursts, or even reckless behaviors, can leave children feeling insecure and anxious. Projection and Blame Borderline mothers often project their own feelings of inadequacy or shame onto their children, blaming them for problems or emotional pain. Difficulty with Boundaries This may manifest as: – Over-involvement in the child's life. – Lack of appropriate emotional boundaries. – Enmeshment or dependency. --- The Impact of a Borderline Mother on Children Emotional and Psychological Effects Children of borderline mothers may experience: – Low Self-Esteem: Constant validation– seeking or criticism erodes confidence. – Attachment Issues: Insecure or disorganized attachment patterns. – Anxiety and Depression: Chronic unpredictability fosters feelings of insecurity. – Identity Confusion: Difficulty understanding their own emotions and boundaries. – Trust Issues: Due to inconsistent caregiving, children may struggle to trust others. Behavioral Consequences Some children adapt by: – Becoming People-Pleasers to avoid conflict. – Acting out or withdrawing emotionally. – Developing codependent tendencies. Long-Term Challenges Adult children might grapple with: – Repeating patterns of dysfunctional relationships. – Difficulty establishing healthy boundaries. – Persistent fears of abandonment. --- Understanding the Borderline Mother: Beyond the Surface Recognizing the Complexity It's essential to understand that borderline behaviors are often rooted in deep-seated pain, fear, and unresolved trauma. Many borderline mothers may: – Be unaware of their own emotional dysregulation. – Struggle with shame and guilt. – Desperately want to connect but feel overwhelmed by their fears. Understanding The Borderline Mother 8 Not All Borderline Mothers Are the Same Each individual exhibits a unique combination of traits influenced by personal history, personality, and current circumstances. Some may be more volatile, while others may be more covert or passive-aggressive. Distinguishing Between Willful Neglect and Disordered Behavior While some behaviors may appear intentionally hurtful, many borderline mothers are acting out of their own unresolved trauma and fears, not from malice. --- Strategies for Coping and Healing For Children and Adult Survivors Understanding and processing a relationship with a borderline mother can be challenging, but several strategies can aid healing: 1. Education: Learning about BPD traits helps contextualize behaviors and reduces self-blame. 2. Setting Boundaries: Establishing emotional and physical boundaries is crucial for self-preservation. 3. Therapy:

Professional support, such as trauma-informed therapy or dialectical behavior therapy (DBT), can facilitate healing. 4. Building Support Networks: Connecting with others who have similar experiences provides validation and guidance. 5. Self-Compassion: Recognizing that the mother's behaviors are not a reflection of personal worth. For Borderline Mothers While not all can or will seek help, some may benefit from: – Therapeutic Intervention: Engaging in psychotherapy to address underlying trauma and emotion regulation. – Mindfulness Practices: Developing awareness of emotional triggers. – Family Therapy: Improving communication and understanding within the family unit. – Support Groups: Connecting with others facing similar challenges. --- Conclusion: Toward Compassion and Clarity Understanding the borderline mother requires compassion, patience, and a willingness to see beyond her behaviors to the underlying pain and fears that drive them. Recognizing the patterns allows for healthier boundaries, reduced self-blame, and pathways toward healing for those affected. While the relationship can be complex and painful, awareness and support can foster resilience and hope for growth, understanding, and eventual peace. --- Remember: If you are dealing with a borderline mother or have experienced trauma related to such relationships, seeking professional help is a vital step toward healing. You're not alone, and recovery is possible. Understanding The Borderline Mother 9 borderline personality disorder, maternal mental health, emotional regulation, attachment issues, dysfunctional mother-child relationship, narcissistic mother, postpartum mental health, personality disorders, family dynamics, emotional neglect

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the first love in our lives is our mother recognizing her face her voice the meaning of her moods and her facial expressions is crucial to survival dr christine ann lawson vividly describes how mothers who suffer from borderline personality disorder produce children who may flounder in life even as adults futilely struggling to reach the safety of a parental harbor unable to recognize that their borderline parent lacks a pier or even a discernible shore four character profiles describe different symptom clusters that include the waif mother the hermit mother the queen mother and the witch children of borderlines are at risk for developing this complex and devastating personality disorder themselves dr lawson s recommendations for prevention include empathic understanding of the borderline mother and early intervention with her children to ground them in reality and counteract the often dangerous effects of living with a make believe mother some readers may recognize their mothers as well as themselves in this book they will also find specific suggestions for creating healthier relationships addressing the adult children of borderlines and the therapists who work with them dr lawson shows how to care for the waif without rescuing her to attend to the hermit without feeding her fear to love the queen without becoming her subject and to live with the witch without becoming her victim a jason aronson book

have you been deeply hurt by your mother did the woman who should have loved you nourished you and protected you inflict traumas that still affect your life today are you struggling every day to repair the damage that she caused if you were raised by a bpd parent your childhood would more than likely have been an unstable and painful experience children raised by mothers with borderline personality disorder are at risk of developing the same kind of emotional problems they may find themselves facing seemingly insurmountable obstacles in order to overcome their parent s dysfunctional attitudes and it may be necessary to seek professional help to work on such feelings adult children of bdp parents are often afflicted with so much guilt and such a strong sense of profound obligation and shame that they feel obliged to keep secret all that has happened in the family even when it is destroying their lives these people can find it really difficult to share their experiences because mothers with bpd are usually very good at creating the perfect family image for outsiders to the family i advise you to read this book if any of these symptoms sound familiar sudden unexplained anxiety followed by rapid falls into depression doubting yourself and your sanity mood swings endless and repetitive obsessive thinking about your mother constantly try to find explanations for what happened feelings of powerlessness and despair a desire to self isolate overwhelming feelings of loss and pain extreme attacks of anger insomnia or strange dreams many readers can recognize their mothers and themselves in this book often the children of borderline mothers are terrified of their attitudes and remain paralyzed by failing to react others find courage but find themselves without the right tools to face them what you need to learn

understanding the psychological mechanisms of a borderline mother the main styles of a borderline mother identify the traits the serious consequences in adulthood if you don t address these issues things you should never do with bpd sufferers learn to defend yourself emotionally against them how to overcome the trauma and begin a healthy healing process there are many other situations that will be listed within this book knowing the right information allows you to contain the damage and avoid unnecessary suffering the internal dynamics and long term unresolved traumas can create irreversible damage to your sanity threatening future emotional and mental stability so it is important to take immediate action if you are tired of carrying this weight every day and want to finally make a change in your life this book has been written especially for you heal the deep wounds of the child within you

have you been deeply hurt by your mother did the woman who should have loved you nourished you and protected you inflict traumas that still affect your life today are you struggling every day to repair the damage that she caused if you were raised by a bpd parent your childhood would more than likely have been an unstable and painful experience children raised by mothers with borderline personality disorder are at risk of developing the same kind of emotional problems they may find themselves facing seemingly insurmountable obstacles in order to overcome their parent s dysfunctional attitudes and it may be necessary to seek professional help to work on such feelings if you have experienced these issues as a child you may have low self esteem or suffer from anger or depression recognising that these problems are not a choice but the consequences of your mother s disorder is a necessary first step towards healing your emotional wounds adult children of bdp parents are often afflicted with so much guilt and such a strong sense of profound obligation and shame that they feel obliged to keep secret all that has happened in the family even when it is destroying their lives these people can find it really difficult to share their experiences because mothers with bpd are usually very good at creating the perfect family image for outsiders to the family i advise you to read this book if any of these symptoms sound familiar sudden unexplained anxiety followed by rapid falls into depression doubting yourself and your sanity mood swings endless and repetitive obsessive thinking about your mother constantly try to find explanations for what happened feelings of powerlessness and despair a desire to self isolate overwhelming feelings of loss and pain extreme attacks of anger insomnia or strange dreams many readers can recognize their mothers and themselves in this book often the children of borderline mothers are terrified of their attitudes and remain paralyzed by failing to react others find courage but find themselves without the right tools to face them looking for help from friends and acquaintances could not be the best solution they will try to minimize or simply say that you are overdoing it don t take it out on them they won t understand you because they haven t experienced certain dynamics in their lives what you need to learn understanding the psychological mechanisms of a borderline mother the main styles of a borderline mother identify the traits the serious consequences in adulthood if you don t address these issues things you should never do with bpd sufferers learn to defend yourself emotionally against them how to overcome the trauma and begin a healthy healing process there are many other situations that will be listed within this book knowing the right information allows you to

contain the damage and avoid unnecessary suffering the internal dynamics and long term unresolved traumas can create irreversible damage to your sanity threatening future emotional and mental stability so it is important to take immediate action if you are tired of carrying this weight every day and want to finally make a change in your life this book has been written especially for you heal the deep wounds of the child within you scroll up and click buy now button at the top of this page

this book focuses on one particular group of people affected by the disease children whose mothers are borderline the borderline mom does provide insight into the disease and why borderlines act the way they do the primary focus of the book however is providing everyone with a borderline mother a concrete course of action which will help you defend yourself from the instability and emotional pain borderlines sometimes cause to those around them should you learn to enforce boundaries or cut off contact to avoid further pain the final course of action is up to you but this book provides you with all the tools to take the optimal course of action if the relationship with your borderline mom is causing you pain

the first love in our lives is our mother recognizing her face her voice the meaning of her moods and her facial expressions is crucial to survival dr christine ann lawson vividly describes how mothers who suffer from borderline personality disorder produce children who may flounder in life even as adults futilely struggling to reach the safety of a parental harbor unable to recognize that their borderline parent lacks a pier or even a discernible shore four character profiles describe different symptom clusters that include the waif mother the hermit mother the queen mother and the witch children of borderlines are at risk for developing this complex and devastating personality disorder themselves dr lawson s recommendations for prevention include empathic understanding of the borderline mother and early intervention with her children to ground them in reality and counteract the often dangerous effects of living with a make believe mother some readers may recognize their mothers as well as themselves in this book they will also find specific suggestions for creating healthier relationships addressing the adult children of borderlines and the therapists who work with them dr lawson shows how to care for the waif without rescuing her to attend to the hermit without feeding her fear to love the queen without becoming her subject and to live with the witch without becoming her victim a jason aronson book

what if the person who was supposed to keep you safe was also the one who left you doubting your own worth for many adult children of a parent with borderline personality traits this question is less a thought experiment and more a quiet daily ache the problem growing up in emotional whiplash affection one moment rejection the next teaches you to walk on eggshells without ever noticing the cracks beneath your feet you learn to shrink yourself to anticipate every shift in tone to guess rather than speak and even years later the old patterns follow you the guilt that isn t yours the anxiety that never seems to switch off the guilt triggered yes that comes out before you

understand why the part few people admit out loud these patterns don't disappear on their own they show up in your relationships your confidence your boundaries and even the way you talk to yourself the solution offered here is simple and direct clear explanations that help you finally understand what happened paired with practical tools that help you loosen the emotional knots you've carried for far too long nothing vague nothing sugar coated just a grounded approach to reclaiming the parts of you that were never broken only overshadowed by someone else's instability what you'll gain through this audiobook this isn't theory for its own sake each chapter delivers something you can actually use in real life you'll learn how to spot the patterns that shaped your childhood so they stop running your adult life recognize emotional traps that once kept you stuck and now lose their power detach from guilt that was projected onto you for years respond without overreacting when a parent pushes your buttons set limits without feeling like you're betraying anyone protect your mental space when a parent uses chaos to pull you back in handle manipulation without losing your calm or your clarity strengthen your identity after years of being told who you should be rebuild trust with yourself especially around decisions and instincts create a future where your emotional stability isn't tied to someone else's mood why this matters because healing doesn't happen from forgiving the past it starts when you understand it really understand it and finally stop blaming yourself for wounds that were never yours to carry this audiobook gives you a way forward that feels steady clear and doable even if you've tried other approaches before you'll recognize yourself in these pages but even more importantly you'll recognize who you can become once the chaos is no longer steering your choices if you're ready to stop repeating the same emotional script and start writing your own this is where things begin to shift for good

in this guide the first thing we'll point out is how difficult it is to go through life with a mother or father who has borderline personality disorder we'll do this by giving multiple examples and discussing them second we'll touch on anticipatory anxiety and social problems that people with the disorder may have and the question of whether to openly talk about the disorder with the patients third the matter of attachment will be discussed elaborately mostly because this is exactly the entire problem that those with traumas and disorders are often being confronted with we all develop healthy or unhealthy attachments in our youth and form bonds with our family friends things locations cultural habits etc when something goes wrong with the attachment it messes people up and it can have dire effects learn more about these things now get the book

built on the solid foundation of a six year treatment comparison trial the interpersonal group psychotherapy model fully detailed here focuses on the current relationships in the patient's life the research study showed that individual psychodynamic psychotherapy which emphasizes the developmental genesis of the borderline disorder leads down a much longer and more costly road but with outcomes equivalent to the group model by zeroing in on the affective significance of the patient's lifelong

search for more gratifying and secure relationships the therapist can address a key feature of the disorder found in all its subtypes with group therapy the therapist is able to dilute the powerful transference reactions commonly found in individual therapy with borderline patients in interpersonal group therapy the patient is also able to form new positive identifications with others this guide generously illustrated with extensive clinical examples has been designed to be used in a broad range of treatment settings and employed by an extensive array of mental health professionals psychiatrists psychologists social workers and nurses

in this book we have hand picked the most sophisticated unanticipated absorbing if not at times crackpot original and musing book reviews of understanding the borderline mother helping her children transcend the intense unpredictable and volatile relationship don t say we didn t warn you these reviews are known to shock with their unconventionality or intimacy some may be startled by their biting sincerity others may be spellbound by their unbridled flights of fantasy don t buy this book if 1 you don t have nerves of steel 2 you expect to get pregnant in the next five minutes 3 you ve heard it all

personalities are like impressionistic paintings at a distance each person is all of a piece up close each is a bewildering complexity of moods cognitions and motives theodore millon exploring the continuum from normal personality traits to the diagnosing and treatment of severe cases of personality disorders this book is unique in its coverage of both the historical forerunners and the contemporary theorists attention to detail and in depth discussion of the subtleties involved in these debilitating personality disorders make this book an ideal companion to the dsm iv this vital resource features discussion of the developmental aspects of personality disorders balanced coverage of the major theoretical perspectives biological psychodynamic interpersonal cognitive and evolutionary individual chapters on all dsm iv personality disorders and their subtypes case studies used throughout the text bring to life the many faces of these disorders this book will enlighten the reader s understanding of others while illuminating the inner working of human personalities

wall street journal and usa today bestseller is your team thriving in a world of relentless and rapid change from the new york times bestselling author of smarttribes and rules for renegades comes a potent set of neuroscience based tools to empower your team in uncertain times whether it s diminished sales increased competition or corporate restructuring change is a natural part of doing business in today s high speed information overload instant response environment but inherent in human nature is resistance to change a basic emotional response that is well documented by neuroscience in this groundbreaking guide top leadership consultant and employee engagement expert christine comaford shows you how to bring your tribe together to tackle any challenge head on using her simple proven strategies you ll be able to meet the demands of changing markets customers and competitors adapt to new management restructuring and other corporate shakeups spark innovation and

teamwork in the workplace and keep it burning empower your people to embrace change as a new opportunity for growth filled with case studies and all too familiar examples this book will enable you to release resistance to change build more emotionally agile teams and mobilize the entire organization quickly and efficiently toward a clear and common goal by training and empowering your team members to shift their emotional states and see the positive potential of change you can lead your tribe through any challenge and ensure success for years to come

this book focuses on the treatment of families at psychosocial risk outlining an integrative approach to early intervention and providing both a theoretical and a very practical approach to intervention with the most at risk families

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