Clinical Guidelines and Service Definitions
Attachment Assessment

Funding Stream
This is funded by Core Services if no other resources are available.

Definition of Service
• **Service goals are centered on promoting child and family safety and family protective capacity.**
• The service is used to assess a child’s ability to attach or bond to caregivers in different situations (parents, daycare, foster care, etc.) and to provide recommendations for treatment to assist the child in improving his/her ability to form meaningful attachments in the future. This assessment is **not** used when there are professionals involved with the family that are qualified to speak to attachment/bonding issues. Neither is this assessment used to determine a child’s level of attachment to a specific caregiver (see Interactional Assessment). It can be particularly useful when the individual is pre- or nonverbal, or has a lack of insight or emotionality.
• **The report should contain the following information:** identifying information, referral source, reason for referral, procedures used, collateral contacts, relevant history, findings, empathy and protective capacity and rationale for recommendations.
• The collection and review of collateral information **must** be obtained prior to completing the report and documentation of the collateral information must be included in the final written report. If unable to obtain collateral data within one week of the referral, the provider must outreach to caseworker/supervisor/Health Network care coordinator to facilitate collection of collateral information. Reports written without obtaining collateral information will not be reimbursed without prior approval from AspenPointe Health Network.

Estimated Length of Treatment:
Three to six hours over several sessions and/or settings

Frequency of Service:
One time per year

Provider Credentials:
• Licensed or have a Master’s Degree and has passed State of Colorado written licensing exam in any one of the mental health licensing areas (LPC, LMFT, LCSW).
• If not licensed, provider must be under the supervision of a licensed clinician with expertise in attachment issues.
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**Provider Responsibilities:**
Report required within ten business days of completed evaluation. Both the Caseworker and Care Coordinator are to receive copies of the report.

**Caseworker Responsibilities:** Caseworker is responsible for providing specific referral question(s) to the Care Coordinator on the referral form; this will enable the provider to most effectively address the relevant issues.

**Staffing:**
As requested by Caseworker.