

# Agency Response Guide

1. WHAT IS THE ALLEGED ABUSE AND/OR NEGLECT IN THIS REFERRAL?
2. DOES THE ALLEGED ABUSE AND/OR NEGLECT MEET CRITERIA FOR AGENCY RESPONSE?

The following definitions were taken from Colorado Children's Code Title 19, 19-1-103:

\_Any case in which a child exhibits evidence of skin bruising, bleeding, malnutrition, failure to thrive, burns, fracture of any bone, subdural hematoma, soft tissue swelling, or death and either: Such condition or death is not justifiably explained; the history given concerning such condition is at variance with the degree or type of such condition or death; or the circumstances indicate that such condition may not be the product of an accidental occurrence.

\_Any case in which a child is subjected to unlawful sexual behavior.

\_Any case in which a child is a child in need of services because the child's parents, legal guardian, or custodian fails to take the same actions to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter, medical care, or supervision that a prudent parent would take.

\_Any case in which a child is subjected to emotional abuse. As used in this subparagraph (IV), "emotional abuse" means an identifiable and substantial impairment of the child's intellectual or psychological functioning or development or a substantial risk of impairment of the child's intellectual or psychological functioning or development.

\_ Any case in which a parent, guardian, or legal custodian has abandoned the child or has subjected him or her to mistreatment or abuse or a parent, guardian, or legal custodian has suffered or allowed another to mistreat or abuse the child without taking lawful means to stop such mistreatment or abuse and prevent it from recurring.

\_Any case in which a child lacks proper parental care through the actions or omissions of the parent, guardian, or legal custodian.

\_Any case in which a child's environment is injurious to his or her welfare.

\_Any case in which, in the presence of a child, or on the premises where a child is found, or where a child resides, a controlled substance, as defined in section 18-18-102 (5), C.R.S., is manufactured or attempted to be manufactured.

\_Any case in which a child tests positive at birth for either a schedule I controlled substance, as defined in section 18-18-203, C.R.S., or a schedule II controlled substance, as defined in section 18-18-204, C.R.S., unless the child tests positive for a schedule II controlled substance as a result of the mother's lawful intake of such substance as prescribed.

\_No, does not meet criteria (screen out/I&R only).

### 3. DETERMINE RESPONSE TIME: (7.103.61) [Rev. eff. 1/1/15]

1. **Immediate and/or same day response** is required when the referral indicates that:
  - a. There may be present danger of moderate to severe harm; or,
  - b. The child’s vulnerability and/or factors such as drug and alcohol abuse, violence, isolation, or risk of flight from one county to another county or state, increase the need for immediate response.
  - c. If the referral is received after regular business hours and the response time assigned is immediate, the time frame is immediate and/or up to eight hours.
2. **End of the third calendar day** following receipt of the referral when the referral indicates that:
  - a. There may be impending danger of moderate to severe harm; or,
  - b. The child’s vulnerability and/or factors such as drug and alcohol abuse, violence, isolation, or risk of flight from one county to another county or state, increase the need for intervention in the near future.

The three (3) calendar day count expires at the end of the third calendar day following receipt of the referral.

3. **A five (5) working day response** is required when a referral indicates an absence of safety concerns. The five (5) day count excludes the date the referral was received.

### 4. BASED ON THE ALLEGATION(S) IDENTIFIED IN THE REPORT, SELECT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING: (Reference Differential Response Alleged Abuse and/or Neglect Guide)

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| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>High Risk Assessment (SELECT REASON)</b><br><br><b>7.103.7 (b)</b><br><br><b>Mandatory Reason:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> Allegation of sexual abuse</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Allegation of child fatality/near fatality resulting from known and/or suspected abuse and/or neglect</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Allegation of egregious incident of abuse and/or neglect</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Institutional referral</li> </ul> | <b>Discretionary Reasons:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> Currently open HRA response</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Frequent, similar, recent referrals</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Violent activities in the household</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Caregiver declined services in the past</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Caregiver unwilling/unable to achieve safety</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Past safety concerns not resolved</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Previous serious child harm offenses</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Credible RP alleges high safety concern</li> <li><input type="radio"/> High child vulnerability</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Substance Abuse not manageable through FAR</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Domestic Violence not manageable through FAR</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Court ordered investigation</li> <li><input type="radio"/> FAR Eligible, approved exemption – staffing</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Not in FAR County jurisdiction</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Insufficient info to assess for FAR eligibility</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Other (Describe):</li> </ul> |
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**THIS REFERRAL IS FAR ELIGIBLE.**

## DIFFERENTIAL RESPONSE ALLEGED ABUSE AND/OR NEGLECT GUIDE

The below instances are examples of what response type may be appropriate. Track assignment shall be determined by the presence of imminent danger, level of risk, number of previous reports, source of the report and/or presenting referral characteristics such as type of alleged abuse and/or neglect, age of the alleged victim, and county discretion.

### Neglect

#### High Risk Assessment

- Failure to provide medical care in life endangering situations
- Child inadequately supervised, imminent danger
- Child abandonment
  
- Child exposed to methamphetamine manufacturing
- Child access to drugs
- Alleged PRAN assaults non-offending victim while holding child
- Weapons are being used in the vicinity of the child
- Child intervenes in an incident of domestic violence and is injured
- Alleged domestic violence PRAN has made suicidal or homicidal statements

#### Family Assessment Response

- Vulnerable child without supervision
- Medical diagnosis of failure to thrive
- Housing conditions pose health, safety or harm to the children
- Domestic issues between adults in residence endanger the safety and welfare of the child
- Educational neglect
- Child born exposed to chemicals/drugs
- Caregiver involved in possession, use, sale of a controlled substance in the presence of the child
- Caregiver driving under the influence with child
- Child has a physical, mental or emotional condition requiring care that is not being received
- Failure to protect from conditions actions which endanger child
- Child present or involved with parent committing a criminal act
- Items thrown in the vicinity of child
- Child intervenes in an incident of domestic violence and is not injured

### Physical

#### High Risk Assessment

- Life threatening injury
- Report of non-accidental injury which requires medical attention
- Severe injury (Broken bone, injury to the head, torso or genitals)
- Third degree burns (non-accidental)
- Physical punishment to child less than 3 y/o involving shaking, throwing or hitting head or trunk
- Excessive physical injuries
- Unreasonable confinement or restraint including tying, locking, caging or chaining child has injuries
- Child fatality with other children living in the home

#### Family Assessment Response

- Threatened physical abuse
  
- Present visible injury
  
- First or Second degree burns (non-accidental)
- Report of non-accidental injury, not currently present
- Unexplained injury
- Excessive/extreme/severe punishment without injury

### Sexual

#### High Risk Assessment

- All allegations of intra-familial sexual abuse

#### Family Assessment Response

- Verbal acts or omissions which have an observable adverse effect on the child (name calling, language, constant yelling) unreasonable force or cruelty
- Caregiver shows little or no attachment
- Child shows behavioral changes that appear to be related to domestic violence and is fearful of physical injury or death to self or others

### Emotional

#### High Risk Assessment

- Child is restrained or restricted from leaving during a domestic violence incident
- Unreasonable confinement or restraint including tying, locking, caging or chaining or unreasonable force or cruelty

#### Family Assessment Response

- Verbal acts or omissions which have an observable adverse effect on the child (name calling, language, constant yelling) unreasonable force or cruelty
- Caregiver shows little or no attachment
- Child shows behavioral changes that appear to be related to domestic violence and is fearful of physical injury or death to self or others