

Mandated Reporters to the Child Welfare System What happens when I call child protection?

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Division of Child Welfare

Where to begin?

On a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 is: “I know nothing about Colorado Child Protection”

and 10 is: “I know everything there is to know about Colorado Child Protection”...Where do you rate yourself?

0-----5-----10

What would help you to rate yourself one point higher?



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What is child abuse and neglect?



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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.

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

_ 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.

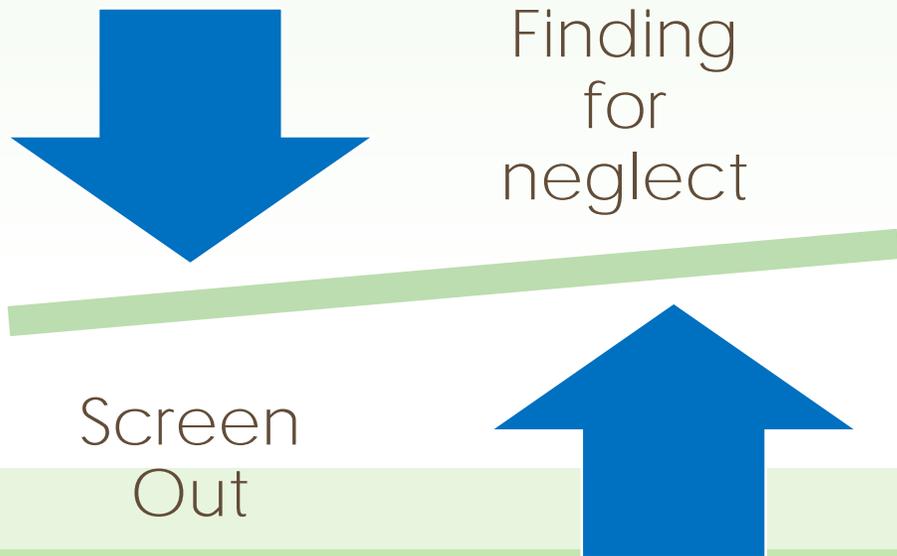
_ Any case in which a child tests positive at birth for either a schedule I controlled substance, as defined in section 18-18-203, C.R.S., or a schedule II controlled substance, as defined in section 18-18-204, C.R.S., unless the child tests positive for a schedule II controlled substance as a result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

What about marijuana?



Drug schedules: Tetrahydrocannabinols (THC) remains a Schedule I controlled substance under CRS 18-18-203

What happens when a child is exposed to THC or tests positive at birth?



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Safe & Together Institute (2017)

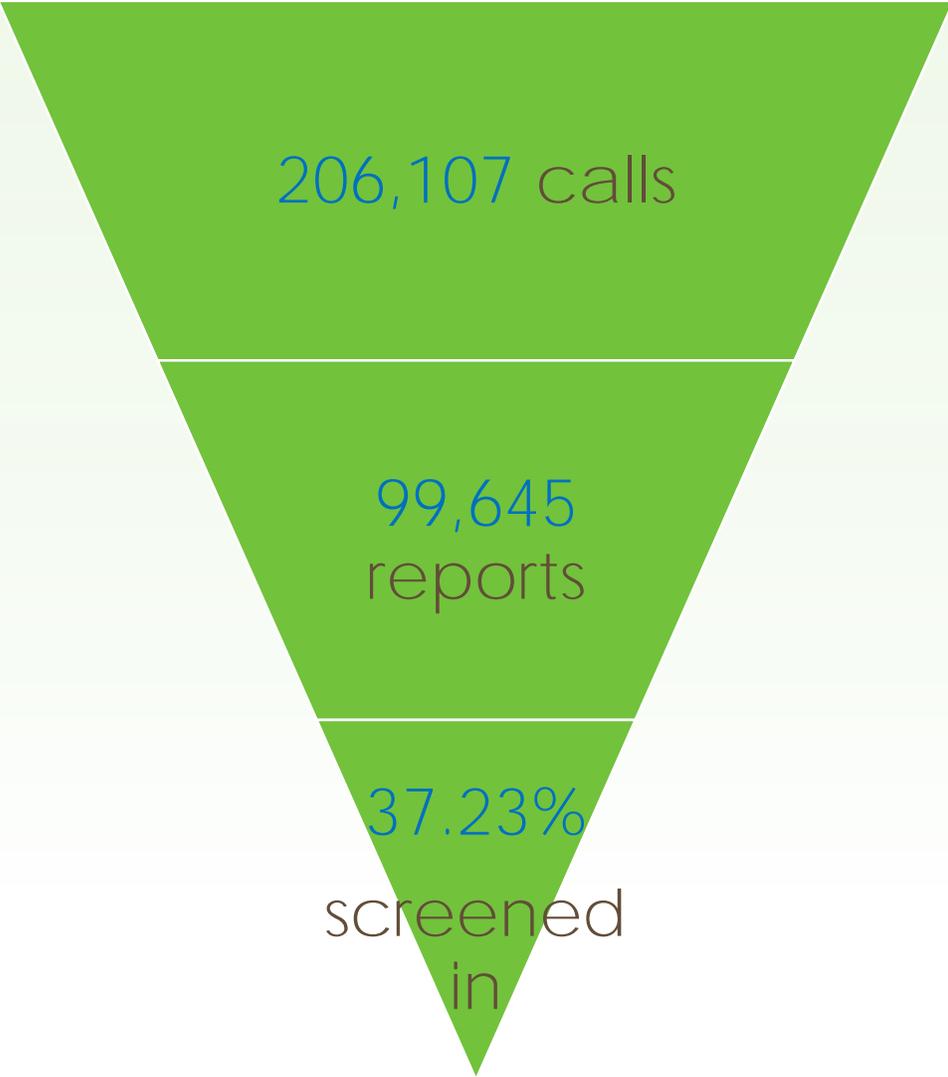


- 1 Keeping child Safe and Together™ with non-offending parent**
Safety Healing from trauma Stability and nurturance
- 2 Partnering with non-offending parent as default position**
Efficient Effective Child-centered
- 3 Intervening with perpetrator to reduce risk and harm to child**
Engagement Accountability Courts



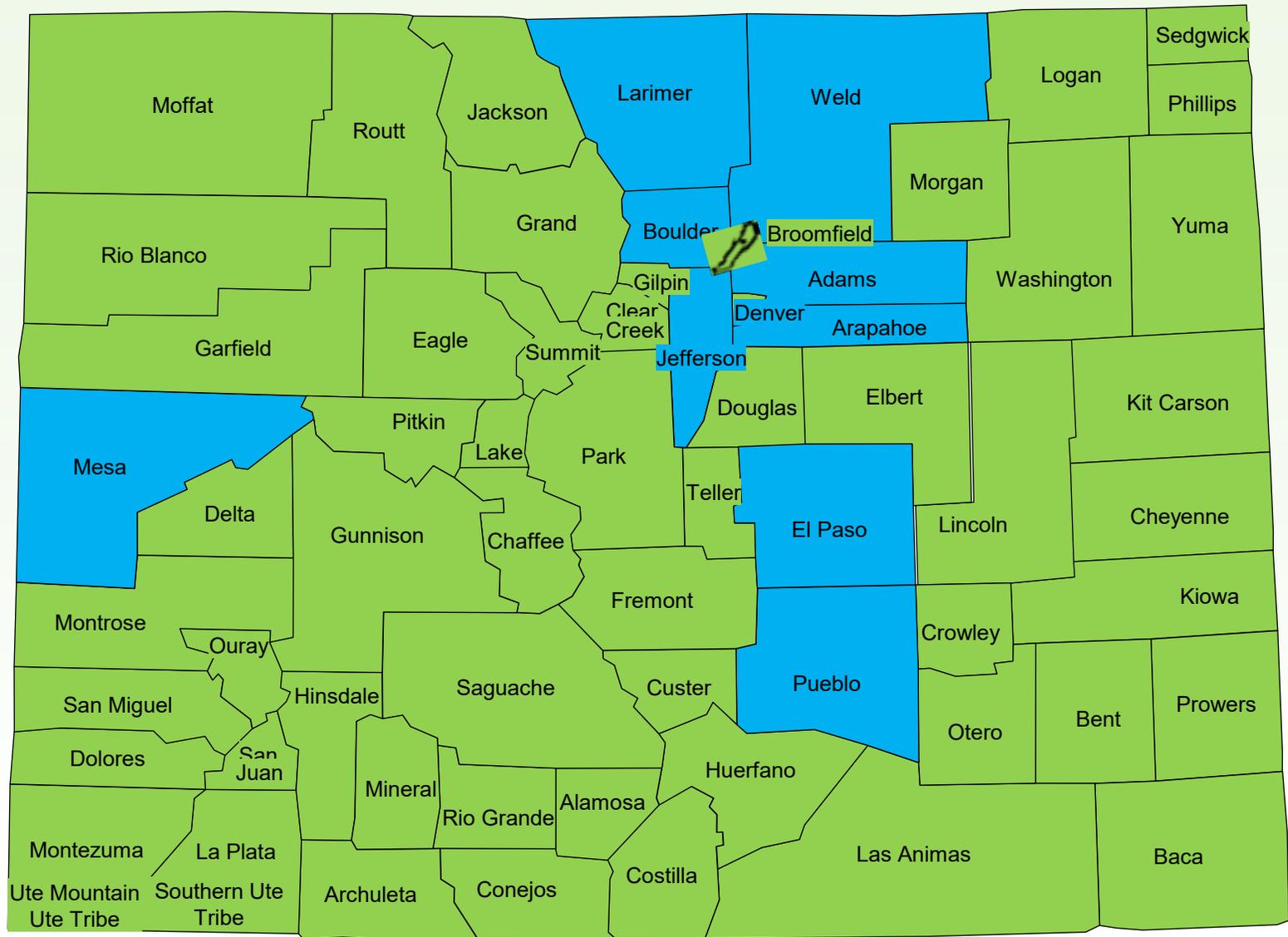
Concrete strategies.
Meaningful tools.
Real change.
Formerly David Mandel & Associates, LLC

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- 2016: State Hotline System received 206,107 calls
- Of 206,107 calls, 99,645 resulted in child abuse/neglect reports
- Of 99,645 reports, 37.23% accepted for further assessment





**64 County
Departments
of Human or
Social Services**

**10 Big
54 Balance of State
Counties**

Who is a mandated reporter?

Anyone can report known or suspected child abuse to law enforcement or Child Protective Services

However, certain individuals are compelled by law to report known or suspected child abuse.

Those individuals are commonly known as Mandated Reporters.

You dial the number. We'll make the call.

We all play a role in preventing **child abuse and neglect.**



1-844-CO-4-KIDS
(1-844-264-5437)

Persons required to report such abuse or neglect or circumstances or conditions include any: CRS 19-3-304

- (a) Physician or surgeon, including a physician in training;
- (b) Child health associate;
- (c) Medical examiner or coroner;
- (d) Dentist;
- (e) Osteopath;
- (f) Optometrist;
- (g) Chiropractor;
- (h) Podiatrist;
- (i) Registered nurse or licensed practical nurse;
- (j) Hospital personnel engaged in the admission, care, or treatment of patients;
- (k) Christian science practitioner;
- (l) Public or private school official or employee;
- (m) Social worker or worker in any facility or agency that is licensed or certified pursuant to part 1 of article 6 of title 26, C.R.S.;
- (n) Mental health professional;
- (o) Dental hygienist;
- (p) Psychologist;
- (q) Physical therapist;

- (r) Veterinarian;
- (s) Peace officer as described in [section 16-2.5-101, C.R.S.](#);
- (t) Pharmacist;
- (u) Commercial film and photographic print processor as provided in subsection (2.5) of this section;
- (v) Firefighter as defined in [section 18-3-201 \(1.5\), C.R.S.](#);
- (w) Victim's advocate, as defined in [section 13-90-107 \(1\) \(k\) \(II\), C.R.S.](#);
- (x) Licensed professional counselors;
- (y) Licensed marriage and family therapists;
- (z) Registered psychotherapists;
- (aa) (l) Clergy member.

(ll) For purposes of this paragraph (aa), unless the context otherwise requires, "clergy member" means a priest, rabbi, duly ordained, commissioned, or licensed minister of a church, member of a religious order, or recognized leader of any religious body.

(bb) Registered dietitian who holds a certificate through the commission on dietetic registration and who is otherwise prohibited by 7 CFR 246.26 from making a report absent a state law requiring the release of this information;

(cc) Worker in the state department of human services;

(dd) Juvenile parole and probation officers;

(ee) Child and family investigators, as described in [section 14-10-116.5, C.R.S.](#);

(ff) Officers and agents of the state bureau of animal protection, and animal control officers;

(gg) The child protection ombudsman as created in article 3.3 of this title;

(hh) Educator providing services through a federal special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children, as provided for in 42 U.S.C. sec. 1786;

(ii) Director, coach, assistant coach, or athletic program personnel employed by a private sports organization or program. For purposes of this paragraph (ii), "employed" means that an individual is compensated beyond reimbursement for his or her expenses related to the private sports organization or program.

(jj) Person who is registered as a psychologist candidate pursuant to [section 12-43-304 \(7\), C.R.S.](#), marriage and family therapist candidate pursuant to [section 12-43-504 \(5\), C.R.S.](#), or licensed professional counselor candidate pursuant to [section 12-43-603 \(5\), C.R.S.](#), or who is described in [section 12-43-215, C.R.S.](#); and

(kk) Emergency medical service providers, as defined in [sections 25-3.5-103 \(8\) and 25-3.5-103 \(12\), C.R.S.](#), and certified pursuant to part 2 of article 3.5 of title 25, C.R.S.

As a Reporter

- The identity of all reporters is confidential.
- Likewise, due to confidentiality a caseworker cannot confirm or deny involvement without consent from the parent.
- Unless, as the mandated reporter you are involved in ongoing care of the child with a need to know to fulfill your professional role in maintaining child's safety you can ask for the following information:
 - Was referral accepted for further assessment or closed without services
 - Name and contact information for the assigned caseworker



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Making a Referral – Why do we ask so many questions?

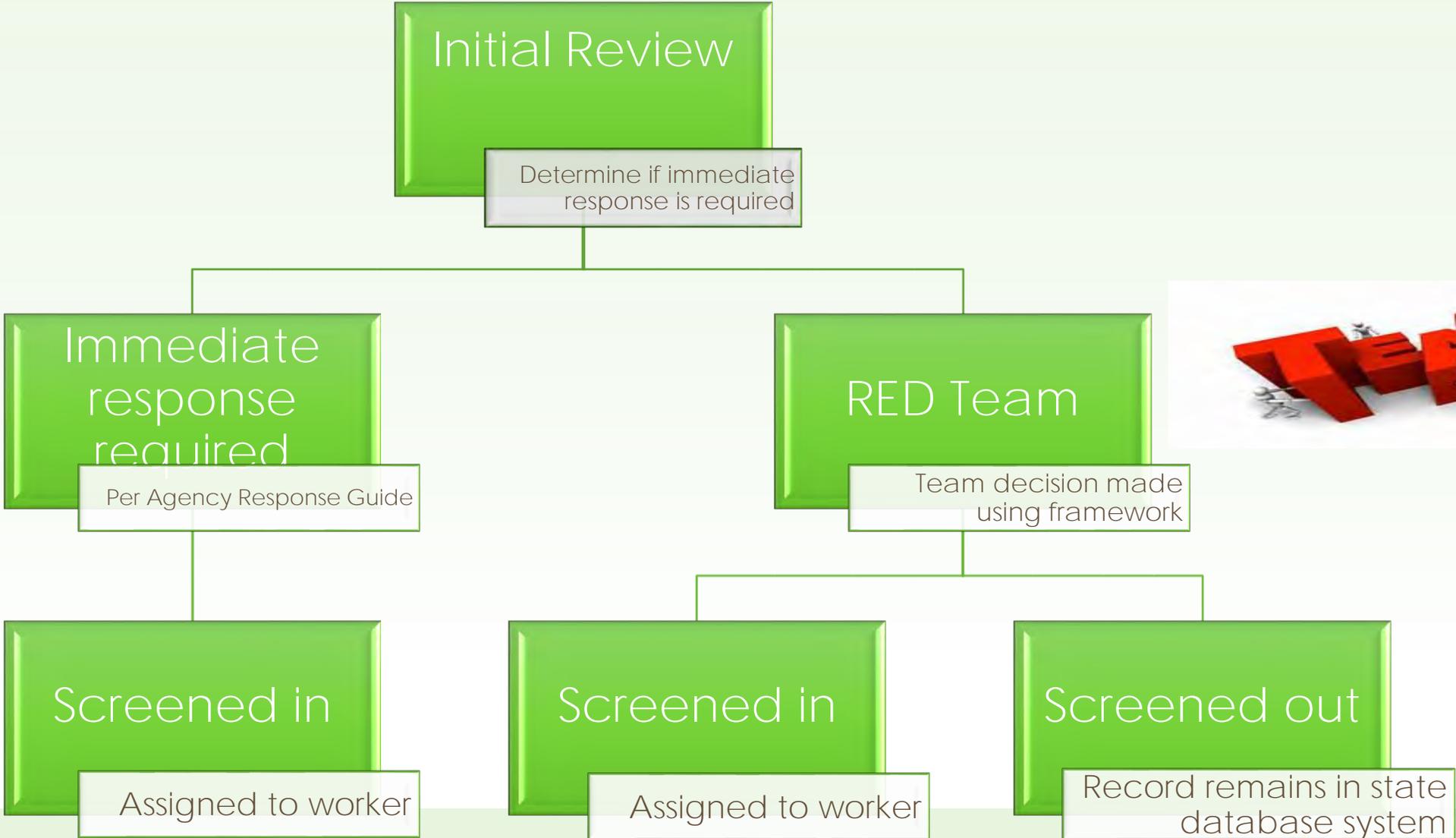
- When reporting alleged abuse and/or neglect contact
 - the county where the family resides, or
 - the State Hotline 1-844-CO-4-KIDS (1-844-264-5437), or
 - local or state law enforcement.
- Reporters should share as much demographic and situational information as possible.
- Refer to Colorado Information Gathering handout



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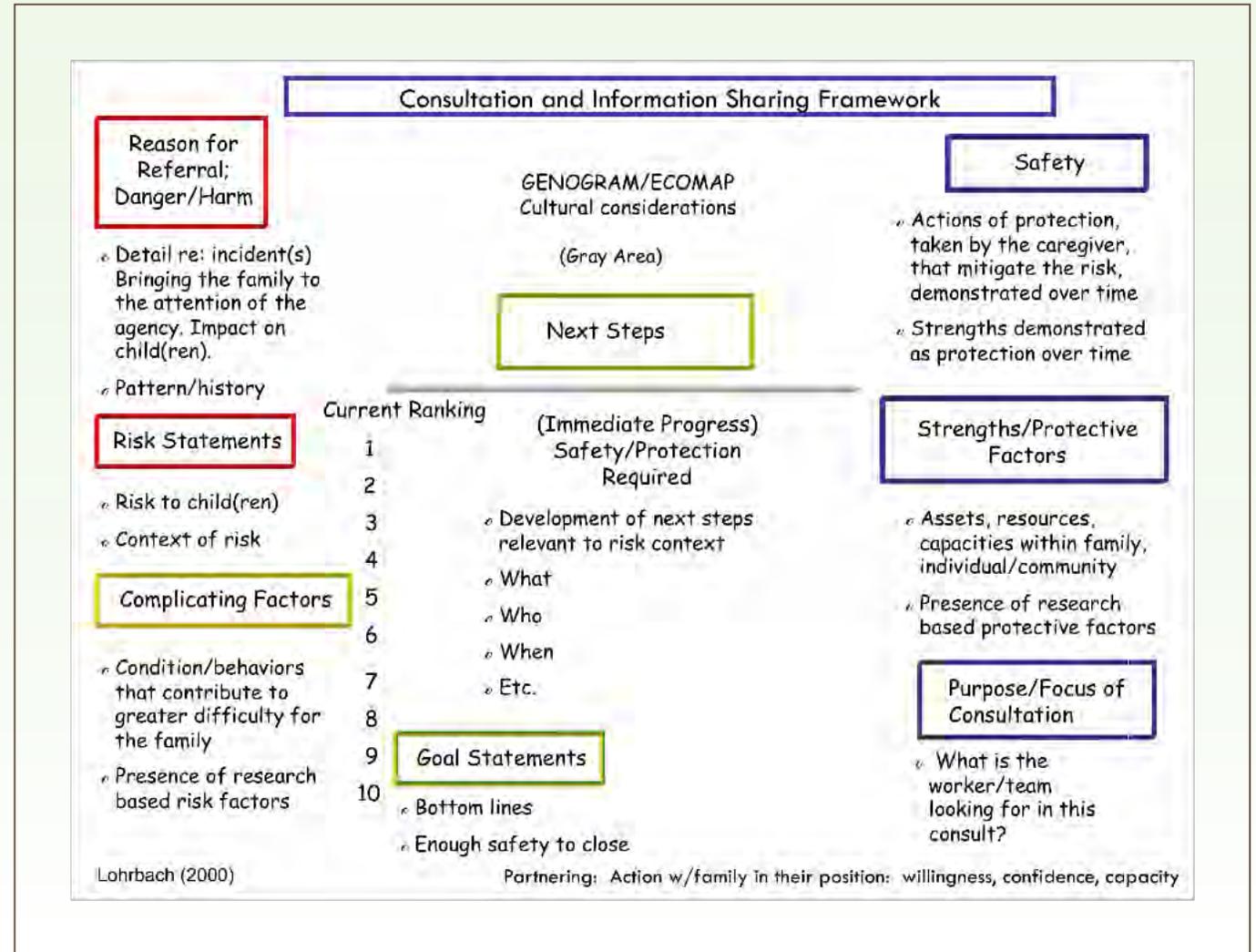
What happens after I make a report?

Hotline Call and Report Received



RED Teams

- RED is an acronym for Review, Evaluate, and Direct
- Meet regularly to review all incoming child protection referrals for a county
- Uses the framework to help ensure that all reports of child maltreatment are correctly assigned, correct timeframes are assigned, and are matched with a proportional child protective service response



Criteria for Assigning a Referral for Assessment

County departments shall assign a referral if it:

1. Contains specific allegations of known or suspected abuse and/or neglect;
2. Provides sufficient information to locate the alleged victim; and,
3. Identifies a victim under the age of eighteen (18).

Reference Social Services Rules 7.103.6



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Colorado Family Safety Assessment

Threshold Criteria:

1. Specific and observable threat: Danger is real, can be seen, can be reported, is evidenced in explicit, unambiguous ways.
2. Out-of-control: Individual and/or family conditions are unrestrained, unmanaged, and not subject to influence or internal control.
3. Child/youth is vulnerable to the threat of harm: A child/youth is vulnerable to the threat of harm because of his or her age, verbal abilities, diagnosed mental-health conditions, diagnosed developmental delays, diagnosed developmental disabilities, or limited physical capacities, or is considered vulnerable because of professional observations.
4. Harm is likely to occur if not controlled: Without intervention to control, the child/youth will be harmed.
5. Potential for moderate to severe harm: The consequences of the maltreatment are at a level consistent with a medium, severe, or fatal level of physical abuse, sexual abuse, or neglect.



Ever wondered what happens after you call?

VIDEO

<http://www.co4kids.org/community/ever-wondered-what-happens-after-you-call>



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Additional Resources

Mandated Reporter Training~

www.coloradocwts.com

Social Services Rules Referral and Assessment~

http://www.sos.state.co.us/CCR/12%20CCR%202509-2.pdf?ruleVersionId=6353&fileName=12_CCR_2509-2

Colorado Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline~

<http://www.co4kids.org/>

We all play a role in preventing **child abuse and neglect.**



1-844-CO-4-KIDS
(1-844-264-5437)