

Child Protective Services

- Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS)
- Investigate reports suspected abuse
- · May remove from home
- · Connect parents with help



Educator Role

- · Violation child's human rights
- · Educators observe children over time
- Skilled observation
- Consequence child abuse
- · Mandatory reporting
 - WA state law



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Definitions Abuse and Neglect

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- · Physical injury
- · Sexual offense
- · Cruel or inhumane acts
- Assault
- Failing to provide food, shelter, health care
- Actions leading to injury



Indicators Physical Abuse



- Bruises
- Injuries shape of article
- Burns
- Injuries inconsistent with story
- · Lacerations, abrasions, fractures



Indicators of Emotional Abuse



- · Lags in physical development
- Extreme behavior disorder
- · Fearfulness adults
- Revelations highly inappropriate behavior



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Indicators of Sexual Abuse

- WILL TIME
- · Venereal disease
- Physical trauma
- · Difficulty walking or sitting
- · Running away from home
- · Pregnancy at 11-12 years old
- · Sexual knowledge or behavior



Indicators of Physical Neglect



- · Lack of basic needs
- · Lack of essential health care
- · Poor hygiene
- Inappropriate clothing
- · Lack of supervision
- · Abandonment



Behavioral Indicators of Abuse & Neglect

- Wary of adult contact
- Frightened of parents
- · Afraid to go home
- · Habitually truant or late to school
- · Parents describe as "bad" child
- · Inappropriately dressed
- · Behavioral extremes



How Do I Respond?

- · Reassure child OK to tell
- · Tell what to expect
- Call CPS to determine reasonable cause for report
- · Trust "gut" feelings
- Early reporting important
- Good faith reporting protected civil liability



Making A Report

- · Must be made within 48 hours
- · Call early in the day if possible
- · Responsibility CPS notify family



Information Needed

- · Name, address, birth date
- Parents name, address, home and work phones
- · Nature and extent abuse
- · Information on previous injuries
- · Identity alleged abuser







CPS Response

- · Referral by phone
- · Determine response
- Determine if meets legal definition abuse
- · Investigating worker assigned



Response Time

- · Response time assigned
- May vary from immediate response to several days
- CPS matrix



Investigation and Intervention

- Mandated investigate alleged abuse
- Investigation related to degree of risk to the child
- May interview child at school
 - Third party present





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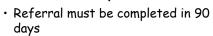
Taking Child Into Custody



- · CPS worker with court order
- · Law Enforcement officer



90-Day Rule



- Development written voluntary services plan
- Filing Dependency action
- · Closing case



Abuse By Third Party

- · Abuse by someone other than parent
- Not normally investigated by CPS
- · Call law enforcement



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Family Reconciliation Services (FRS)



- · Teenage child
- · Family assessments and referrals
- Voluntary
- · Runaway or family conflict
- · Alternative Residential Placement



Questions

- · Unsure injury accidental
- · Working with parent
- · Does referral help?
- · Outcome of referral
- · Confidentiality
- Truancy



