Supporting Families of Young Children

During COVID 19

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Vision

To assist and empower NJ residents in being safe, healthy and connected.
Child Protective Services during COVID 19

• Guidance for families, staff and providers
  https://www.nj.gov/dcf/coronavirus.html

• Caseworkers maintain safety & stay connected with families via teleconferencing

• COVID 19 Response Teams provide face-to-face home visits when needed

• Assistant Family Support Workers drop-off concrete resources in times of need
If you suspect child abuse or neglect

Call the State Central Registry (SCR), 24 hours a day, 7 days a week:

1-877-652-2873

or 1-800-835-5510 (TTY)

- https://www.nj.gov/dcf/reporting/indicators
COVID 19 Teams complete face-to-face home visits when there is:

- Very high or high risk for child maltreatment

- A safety concern for a child and someone is identified to provide supervision of the caregiver and child

- A child age 3 or younger

- Domestic violence in the home
Service Linkages

Based on a comprehensive assessment of safety, risk and protective factors, families are linked with:

- Treatment and recovery support for substance use disorders
- Mental health and/or domestic violence services
- Healthcare, early intervention and/or medical daycare
- Home visitation or other parenting support services
- Social support such as parent support groups, and/or Family Success Center
- Social services to address housing, income supports, WIC, food assistance, and needed baby items such as a crib or car seat
- Other

Over 16,000 children under the age of 5 were served by CP&P in 2018.
Most families of young children were served in their own homes.

**Children Birth-5 Served In-Home vs. Out of Home**

N=16,799

- In-Home: 14,282
- Out of Home: 2,517
Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016 (CARA) (PL 114-198) helps states address the effects of substance use disorders on infants, children and families and requires that the plan of safe care address needs of both the infant and the family/caregiver.

In NJ, a multi-disciplinary team helps to ensure that families are linked to a comprehensive array of resources and services to increase protective factors.

Plan of Safe Care Training Video
https://www.nj.gov/dcf/families/health/poscvideotraining.html

Plan of Safe Care Brochure
DCF supports prevention programs in all 21 counties including Evidenced-Based Home Visiting and Family Success Centers.

- Central Intake - Single point of entry to help link families, pregnancy to age five, and providers with resource information and referrals.
  
  [www.state.nj.us/dcf/families/early/visitation/Central Intake Sites - DOH_DCF.pdf](http://www.state.nj.us/dcf/families/early/visitation/Central Intake Sites - DOH_DCF.pdf)

- DCF Family and Community Partnerships Community Program Directory
  
Children’s System of Care: Mobile Response and Stabilization Services

- Available 24/7 for families of children and youth experiencing emotional or behavioral crisis.

1-877-652-7624
Educational Resources

- Safe sleep
  https://www.nj.gov/dcf/families/safety/sleep

- What to do when the baby cries
  https://www.nj.gov/dcf/families/safety/cries

- Car seat safety

- Safe storage of medication
  https://www.upandaway.org
Reducing child maltreatment

Social distancing does not mean social isolation.

  https://acnj.org/stay-safe-healthy-and-connected-preventing-child-abuse

- DCF and ACNJ have compiled digital resources for providers and families stay connected. For more information on the #WeCan campaign, visit facebook.com/NewJerseyDCF