

Lorain County Children Services



OVERVIEW



In 2014...



Lorain County Children Services received 4,343 referrals from people in our community who were concerned about a child.

Nearly 2,000 of those calls were screened out or the person calling was provided with Information and Referral.

2,156 referrals were screened in as possible child abuse or neglect. The agency assigned caseworkers to these 2,156 situations to see if the allegations were true and the child needs our intervention.

1,580 of these cases were provided with a Traditional Response, and 576 cases were assigned the Alternative Response pathway (once that pathway became available to us in June 2014.) Of the 1,580 cases investigate through the Traditional Response, 498 situations were substantiated.

Custody

On January 1, 2014, 113 children were in the custody of LCCS. During the year, 96 children entered custody and 100 exited custody. On December 31, 2014, 109 children were in our custody.

2014 by Types of Cases



2013		2014	
Total Received	4000	Total Received	4343
Screened Out	198	Screened Out	1054
I/R	1402	I/R	890
Dependency	9	Dependency	20
Screened in Child Abuse/Neglect (CAN)	2191	Screened in CAN (received Traditional Response) (received alternative response)	2156 1,580 TR 576 AR
FINS	169	FINS	175
Screened in Emotional Maltreatment	299	Screened in Emotional Maltreatment	308
Screened in Physical Abuse	1041	Screened in Physical Abuse	1075
Screened in Sexual Abuse	250	Screened in Sexual Abuse	322
Screened in Medical Neglect	108	Screened in Medical Neglect	119
Screened in Neglect	1244	Screened in Neglect	1248
Screened in Shaken baby	0	Screened in Shaken baby	1
Multiple Allegation Reports	634	Multiple Allegation Reports	589
Number Percentage Indicated/substantiated	655 -29.90%	Number Percentage Indicated/substantiated	498 -31.52%

Differential Response



A Differential Response System organizes a child protection agency to respond in a proportional manner to reports of possible child maltreatment.

Sawyer - Lorhbach

Differential Response



DR is a Child Protection model that:

- Allows for more than one type of initial response to **accepted** reports of child maltreatment
- Recognizes that an investigative response is not always the most productive for the family or beneficial for the child
- Provides an “alternative” to the traditional child protection investigative response
- Focuses on achieving safety through enhanced family engagement

Ohio's Pathways...A Closer Look



Alternative Response (AR)

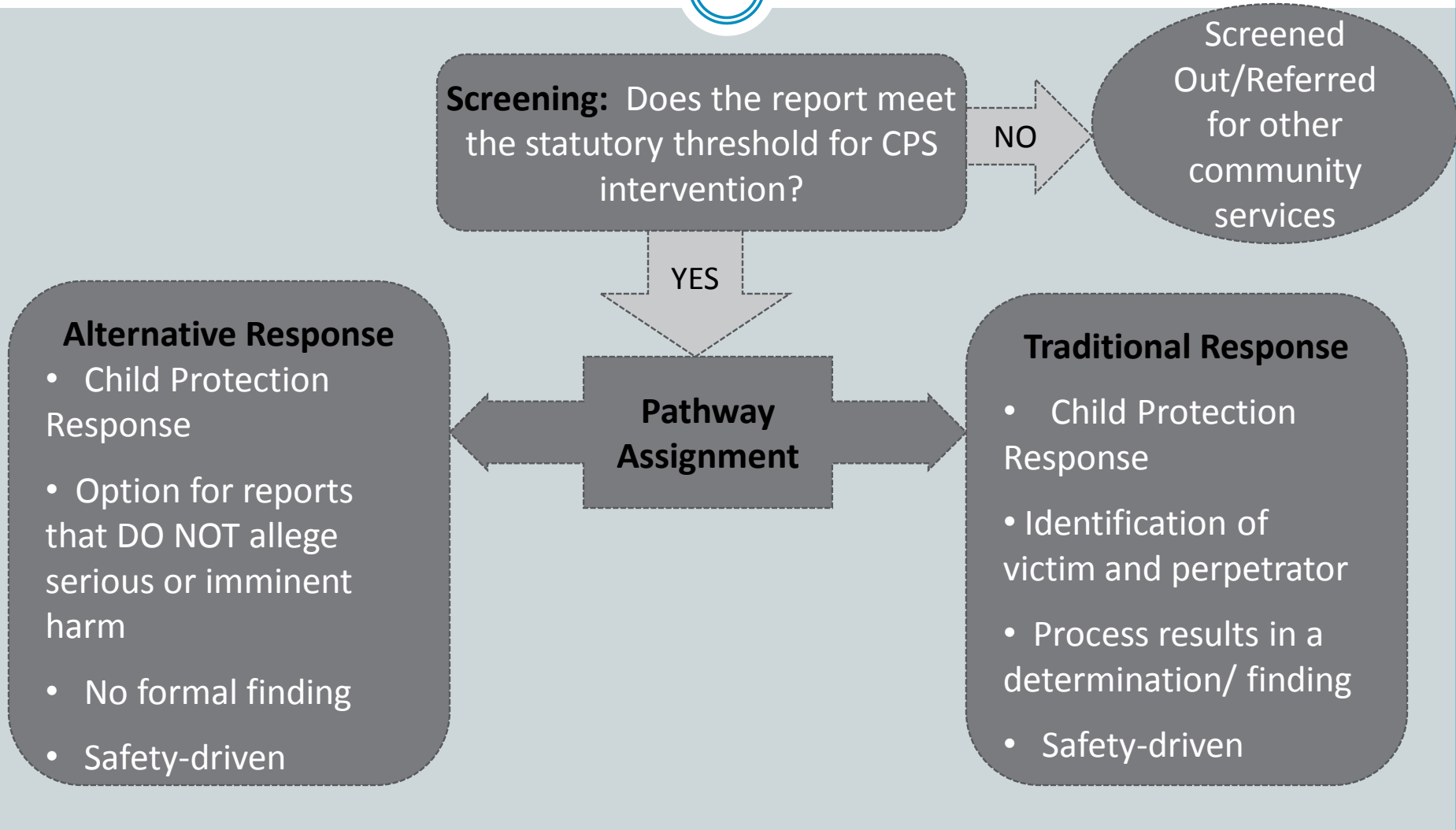
- Applied when report DOES NOT allege serious or imminent harm
- No formal finding/substantiation of the allegation
- Facilitates safety-focused partnership with families
- Safety, Risk and Comprehensive Family Assessment completed
- Emphasis on "front-loading" needed services by providing services earlier and without requirement of a finding

Traditional Response (TR)

- Required for reports of sexual abuse or abuse resulting in serious injury or serious and immediate risk
- Process results in a determination/finding regarding the allegation
- May involve intervention of the court
- Safety, Risk and Comprehensive Family Assessment completed
- Case Plan developed following completion of the Family Assessment for families with ongoing services needs

Pathway assignment may change from Alternative Response to Traditional Response if needed in order to assure safety.

Ohio's Differential Response System



AR Practice Foundation



- Safety-focused partnership with families and communities.
- Allows and encourages agencies to provide services without formal determination of abuse or neglect.
- Recognize and leverage family and community strengths and resources.

“Taking concentration off of the allegation, removal of labels, and focusing on the family system, will take you miles farther with families.”

– Worker



Referrals



- To make a referral
- 440-329-5340 (typical office hours)
- 440- 329-2121 (after hours pager/hotline)
- Staffing (113 people on staff):
 - All Direct Services eligible to take screened in reports and either do an assessment or start an investigation
 - Family Based Care and Independent Living
 - Administrative departments



Contact Us

To Report Abuse or Neglect, call :

440-329-5340 (during regular business hours.)

After hours, on weekends and holidays, please use 440-329-2121.

Our mailing address is:

Lorain County
Children Services
226 Middle Avenue
Elyria, OH 44035

Website: www.ChildrenServices.org

Facebook: LCCS Foster Parents or LorainCountyChildrenServices

Questions?

