An Overview of the CPS Process

CPS Access

CPS receives a report of alleged child abuse and/or neglect from a source.

Screening Decision

**Screened-in:** CPS determines that at least one allegation meets statutory requirements for child abuse and/or neglect.

If county is an alternative response county, decide if AR or TR assessment

**Initial Assessment**

CPS assesses:
- Is the child safe?
- Are risk conditions present?
- TR: Did maltreatment occur?
- AR: Does the family need services?

**Maltreatment Finding:**
- TR: Substantiated or Unsubstantiated, Or Not Able to Locate Sources/Report Subjects Unsubstantiated.
- AR: Services Needed or Services Not Needed.

Safety Decision

Are services needed to ensure child safety?

Yes:
- CPS case opened, and family offered voluntary CPS services, or family assigned court-ordered CPS services.

Can the child safely remain in the home?

No:
- Child removed and placed in OHC; services provided to child and family.

Yes:
- Child remains in home; services provided to child and family.

No:
- CPS case closed. Family may still be offered/referred services.

Assessment Types:
- TR stands for Traditional Response
- AR stands for Alternative Response