

Child Protective Services

The Iowa County Department of Social Services promptly investigates reports of child mistreatment, including alleged physical neglect, physical abuse, sexual abuse, and/or emotional abuse. The Department also investigates threats of neglect and abuse. Reports that suggest a child is in current or imminent danger receive an immediate response. People who make reports in good faith are immune from civil or criminal liability.

ELIGIBILITY

Who Can File A Report? Anyone who suspects a child is being mistreated may make a report to the Department of Social Services.

BENEFITS

A report of child abuse may protect a child from further harm, whether at the hands of a family member or someone outside the family. If mistreatment has occurred, alerting the Department may also lead to treatment for both the injured child and the abuser.

What If The Suspected Abuser Is A Family Member? The focus of a protective services investigation is to assure the safety of an allegedly mistreated child and to determine whether the child and family are in need of any services. In most cases, the parties involved are family members and solutions involve interventions with the family. In some instances, court intervention is required to assure a child's safety and to order services for the family.

What If The Suspected Abuser Is Outside The Family? When a child has been harmed by someone outside the family, interventions with the family do not provide all of the solutions. In many of these cases, law enforcement involvement through the criminal system is necessary to intervene with the person who harmed the child.

REPORT

For further information or to file a report, contact the Iowa County Department of Social Services at 608-930-9801 or at their office, 303 E Chapel St, Ste 2300, Dodgeville, WI 53533 or visit www.iowacounty.org click on Departments then Social Services.