

Screening

Guernsey County Children Services receives and investigates child abuse and neglect allegations. Child safety is the agency's main focus.

Screening / Receiving Child Abuse & Neglect Reports

Guernsey County Children Services screeners receive calls regarding child abuse and neglect concerns. Concerns may be called in to the agency 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at 740-439-5555.

According to the Ohio Administrative Code, Guernsey County Children Services and other public children protective service agencies shall attempt to obtain, at a minimum, the following information from the reporter in order to arrive at a screening decision:

- The name(s) and address(es) of the child and his parent, guardian, or custodian
- The child's age
- The type, extent, frequency, and duration of the abuse, neglect or dependency, if applicable
- Alleged perpetrator access to the child, if applicable
- The child's current condition
- The child's current location
- Circumstances regarding the abuse, neglect, or dependency or the circumstances indicating a need for services
- Information regarding any evidence of previous injuries, abuse, or neglect
- Any other information that might be helpful in establishing the cause of the known or suspected injury, abuse, or neglect or the known or suspected threat of injury, abuse, or neglect or the case circumstances that support the family is in need of services

Within four hours from receipt of the information, the PCSA shall make a determination as to what category the information received applies and assign the information to one of the following four intake categories:

- Child abuse and/or neglect report
- Dependency report
- Family in need of services (FINS)
- Information and/or referral