## HOW DOES THE CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER MODEL WORK?





Function Provided by a Team Member

## LAW ENFORCEMENT



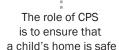
The role of local law enforcement is grounded in public safety

If not criminal in nature, law enforcement may not take action

## **V**

Immediate Response

## **CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES**



If the family/caretaker is not the alleged abuser, CPS may not take action



Priority Assigned (24-72 hours)



Child is brought to children's advocacy center



Joint Investigation Begins
Forensic Interview
Evidence Collected
Photos Taken
Witness Interview
Medical Treatment and Exam





CAC coordinates Case Review with all team members, including law enforcement, prosecution, Child Protective Services, the forensic interviewer, a mental health provider, a medical professional, and a family advocate





Suspect Charged or Case Dismissed Child & family receive mental health services— Family advocate works with family to assess critical resources and provide support as the case moves through the justice system Child Removed from Home, or Case Opened for Services, or

Case Closed