

Child Intervention: What it means if there are concerns reported about your family

Anyone can contact Child Intervention when they are worried about the safety, security or development of a child or youth.

When a concern is reported for the safety of a child or youth, we look to see if it fits the legal definition of abuse or neglect as described in the *Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act (CYFEA)*.

How Child Intervention practitioners gather information about your family

Child Intervention practitioner will ask questions to understand the worries, strengths and safety. The Child Intervention practitioners could talk to you, other parents and guardians, school or daycare staff, doctors, extended family members, neighbours or family friends, and other people in contact with your child if deemed appropriate.

This happens within a set timeframe. It is used to decide if the situation meets the legal definitions of a child or youth who may be in need of intervention according to the *Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act (CYFEA)*.

What happens next

The Child Intervention practitioner uses the information that they've collected to help decide what steps are needed to address the reported concerns for the safety your child or youth:

- Closed
- Closed with a referral to other community or government services, if the child or youth is deemed not to be in need of intervention under the legislation, but the family may benefit from other supports.
- Opened to safety assessment, as the concerns require further assessment.

Reporter information is confidential

The Child Intervention practitioner is not legally allowed to tell you who made the report about your child or youth. The name of a person and information that would identify the

person who makes a report is privileged information under CYFEA.

This is to ensure that the public feels safe reporting their concerns that a child or youth's safety, security or development may be at risk.

You may be contacted

If the matter does not open to a safety assessment, you may not be contacted.

If the matter does open to a safety assessment, a Child Intervention practitioner will contact you as soon as possible.

If you do get a call from Child Intervention, you have the right to know:

- The nature of concerns being assessed,
- What the next steps are, and
- What supports are available to help you.

For more information about safety assessments or other elements of child intervention:

- Talk to your Child Intervention practitioner
- Visit alberta.ca and search "resources for child intervention"