

Hello MDT members and community partners,

We hope all of you are well and look forward to when we can see all of you in person again soon! We are making some changes to our work structure for the next few weeks and want to keep all of you informed.

CACBG staff will begin working remotely on Monday, April 3rd through Friday, April 19, 2020. During this time phone lines and emails will be answered or monitored regularly during business hours.

- **Referrals for forensic interviewing:** Please continue to refer to the CAC all new cases that would have typically been scheduled, this will help to reduce the influx of cases received when we return to business as usual. Please, email (frontdesk@kykids.org) referrals and include the 115, JC-3 and any other relevant information. We will continue to staff each referral within our agency and with the investigators to determine the service needs of each child and family. Non-essential forensic interviews will be postponed to the degree possible. Program Staff are available for case consultation, discussion and planning should investigators feel obtaining a more complete statement from a minor is time-sensitive.
- **Advocacy services:** Our advocates are continuing to conduct follow-up calls with families and additionally assessing for basic and other service needs during this time. They are also checking in with investigators weekly to determine any changes in need for clients referred but not yet seen.
- **Referrals for medicals:**
Acute medical examinations, including evidence collection, will be referred to the UK hospital clinic or ER. Please check with the pediatric forensic medicine provider on call first before sending a child. It may be that the child can be seen in the clinic rather than the ER. The pediatric forensic medicine provider on call can contact Dr. Sugarman. Call 859-257-5522 (UK MD's). For other medical exam referrals and follow up exams call 859-225-5437. These referrals and follow-up examinations are each staffed with Dr. Sugarman and an individual recommendation is made. We anticipate many of these examinations will be considered "non-emergency" and will be scheduled at a later date.
- **Therapy services:** Our therapist Jonna is conducting teletherapy with current clients who desire to continue therapy. We are still accepting and staffing new therapy referrals and staff from our therapy department are reaching out to referred clients or their caregivers.
- **MDT:** CACBG recognizes the importance of continuing MDT meetings as much as possible. This allows team members to have case updates, express new concerns or service needs and discuss new cases referred. Our advocates are working with teams in each of their counties to conduct MDT by conference call. In order to make the meetings as productive as possible CACBG will provide updates to the team before the conference call and ask our community partners to do so as well. When a conference call is not possible our advocates will be contacting MDT members by email for updates and new cases they have received.

The CACBG recommends, when investigators must respond to an imminent child abuse allegation that Minimal Facts/ First Responder Practice should continue to take place (Including minimal facts interviewing of a child if warranted.)

Circumstances that constitute an emergency need to schedule a forensic interview may involve:

- In-home sexual abuse allegation involving a custodial parent/guardian in which there are imminent safety issues and a safety plan cannot effectively be implemented;
- The suspect is in custody and the Commonwealth Attorney requires a forensic interview prior to the arraignment or preliminary hearing;
- Fatality or near fatality of a child and witness/risk interviews are needed of siblings/children in the home;
- An imminent danger to the public.

We anticipate that most cases will be considered “non-emergencies” for forensic interviewing purposes. However, if you have any doubt please ask

Thank you for your patience as we balance case needs with public health concerns, the health of families and our MDT members. We will continue to be in contact regarding changes to CACBG work plans. As soon as it is safe to do so, we will resume practice according to our existing county protocols. Please feel free to contact us with any questions or service needs.

Sincerely,
All of us at CACBG