Child Protective Services

Child Protective Services (CPS) in Virginia is a continuum of specialized services designed to assist families who are unable to safely care for their children. It encompasses the identification, assessment, investigation, and treatment of abused or neglected children.

Responsibilities of Child Protective Services:
- Receive reports of child maltreatment.
- Respond to valid reports of child maltreatment.
- Facilitate services to children and families.
- Support and strengthen families.

Validity Criteria:
- Age
- Caretaker Status
- Jurisdiction
- Abuse or Neglect

Differential Response:

Family Assessment
- Assess child safety
- Strengthen family
- Prevent future maltreatment

Investigation
- The investigation is a process of gathering and evaluating evidence to determine if child abuse or neglect occurred.

Provision of Services:
- Safety-related Services
- High and Very High Risk
- Voluntary Services

CPS Response to Valid Reports:
- R1 Within 24 hours
- R2 Within 48 hours
- R3 Within 5 business days

For more information:
VDSS Guide to Mandated Reporting