

CFSR: Guidance on Reporting Safety Concerns

Immediately Report Child Safety Concerns

CFSR reviewers must report identified safety concerns regarding any child(ren) that they encounter as a result of their involvement with the CFSR case review process. If there is an immediate medical emergency, the CFSR reviewer(s) should first contact 911. CFSR reviewer(s) should report safety concerns to the local and/or state site coordinator. Safety concerns include but are not limited to: allegations of maltreatment; critical incidents in foster care; case participants' threats of harm to self or others; or any other circumstances which present an immediate threat to a child or children's safety. Depending on the specific case circumstances, one or more of the following actions will be taken:

1. The CFSR reviewer(s) will notify the local and/or state site coordinator.
2. Upon notification, the local site coordinator will determine/confirm whether the case is currently active.
 - a. Active cases: If the case is currently active, the casework supervisor that has oversight of the case will be immediately notified of the safety concern so that they can strategize their response and appropriate next steps. The casework supervisor will notify the local site coordinator of the steps taken to address the safety concern(s), ideally before the close of business on the day the information was provided to the casework supervisor. Local site coordinators will share that information with state site coordinators, the assigned QA Specialist, and CFSR reviewers assigned to the case.
 - i. In accordance with PA law, CFSR reviewer(s) may be directed to report the safety concerns and any allegations of child maltreatment to ChildLine. Calls of suspected child abuse or neglect must be placed to ChildLine at: 1-800-932-0313.
 - b. Closed cases: If the case is closed and the concern warrants a new investigation/assessment, the local site coordinator will advise the CFSR reviewer(s) to report the safety concerns and any allegations of child maltreatment to ChildLine. In accordance with PA law, calls of suspected child abuse or neglect must be placed to ChildLine at: 1-800-932-0313.