

MISSION STATEMENT

Child abuse and neglect inflict tremendous pain and suffering on victims, families, and the community. The Los Angeles County Child Abuse and Neglect Protocol is promulgated to serve as a guideline for professionals countywide to protect victims of abuse, to maximize successful interventions, to hold abusers responsible and accountable for the harm done, and to prevent new victimizations. By coordinating efforts, both government and community service providers will better

- protect victims and their siblings
- recognize and identify incidents of child abuse and neglect
- respond to and investigate reports of child abuse and neglect
- document statements and collect evidence related to allegations of abuse
- hold abusers accountable for violations of criminal laws prohibiting child abuse and neglect
- lessen emotional trauma to the victims occasioned by repeat interviews, court appearances, medical/psychological examinations, and other governmental interventions
- provide for the physical, emotional, and psychological well-being of child victims, their siblings, and non-offending parents and/or custodians
- promote collaboration and integrated inter-agency investigation and case management