



Navigating the Intersection of Domestic Violence & Child Welfare

Challenges and Best Practices for
Supporting Survivors

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take care
of yourself

take care



**Descriptions of traumatic situations,
violence**



Unexpected reactions are *normal*



Use strategies that work for you

Poll Questions

slido

Please download and install the
Slido app on all computers you use



**Have you had experience
working with survivors
involved with the child
welfare system?**

① Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

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Please download and install the
Slido app on all computers you use



**What is the biggest
challenge you have faced
when working with
survivors involved with the
child welfare system?**

① Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

Today, we will:

1

Demystify the role of DFS when DV & child abuse/neglect intersect

2

Explore options through case scenarios

3

Identify trauma-informed strategies you can use



**YOU are a
mandatory
reporter!!**



It takes all of us!

...when should you report?

DISCLOSURE

A **child discloses** to you

DISCOVER

You **witness** the abusive behavior

REASON TO SUSPECT

You **see signs** of abuse or neglect

Here's How!

Call the 24-hour hotline at
(800) 292-9582

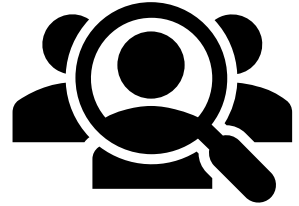
or visit:

www.iseethesigns.org

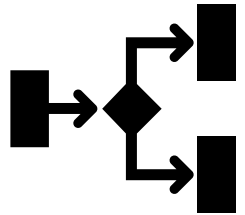
Your identity is protected!



Be Prepared



**Professionals cannot report
anonymously**



Structured Decision Making Model



**DFS may ask for additional
information**

**Total
Reports
to DFS in
FY 2023**

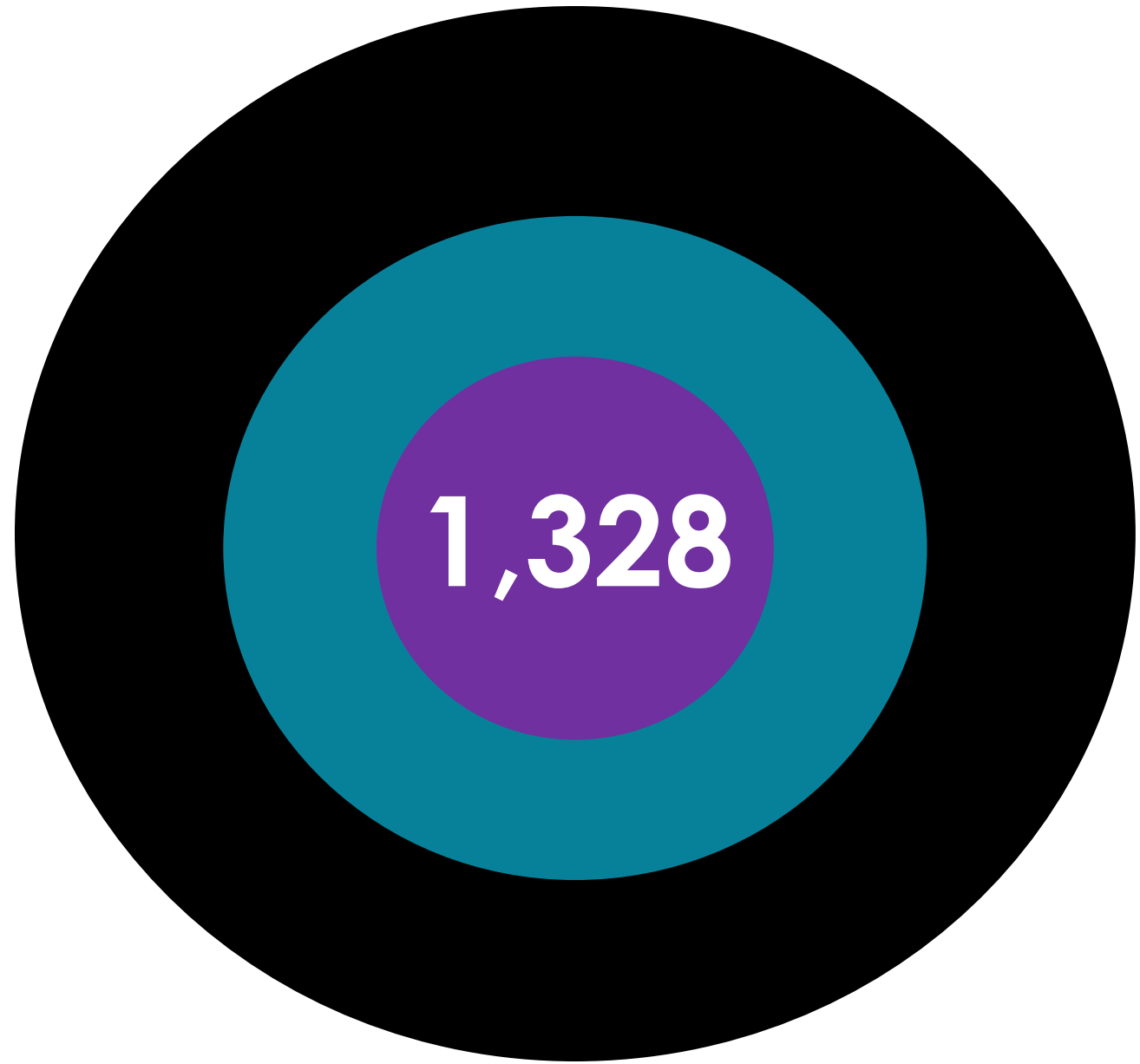


24,389

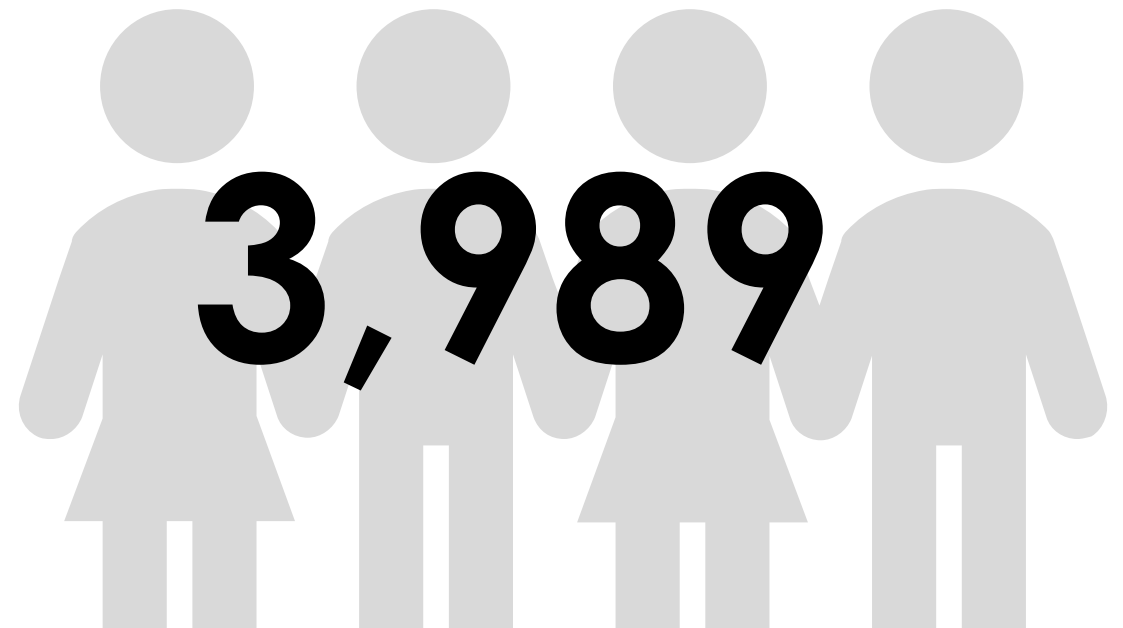
Total Reports
accepted
for
Investigation



Reports
accepted
that **alleged
domestic
violence**



In FY2023, **38%** of the criminal domestic violence incidents happened with children present



**Domestic
violence
+
DFS
involvement**

=



**Partnerships are
essential to providing
holistic support for
families in crisis!**

1

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Case Scenario: Tamara



**Police called after ex
attacked Tamara**



**Continued harassment
despite No Contact Order**



Spotty school attendance

How can you help improve her outcome?

Case Scenario: Rochelle



**Existing DFS treatment case,
substance exposed infant**



**Ex threatens at her job, she
calls his PO**



**Ex attacks her and endangers
baby, police call DFS**

How can you help improve her outcome?

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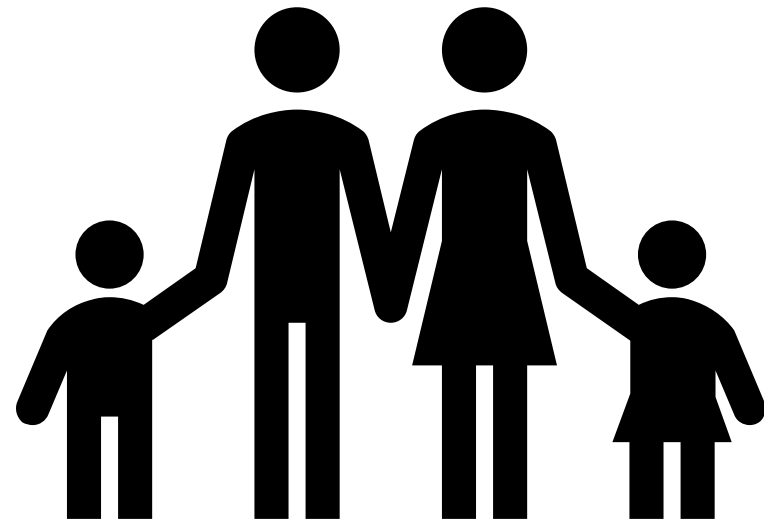


**What should you
know about
working with our
agencies?**

DFS



Report!



Reunite

CLASI



Protection from Abuse



Child Custody & Safety

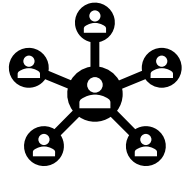


Landlord Tenant

Probation



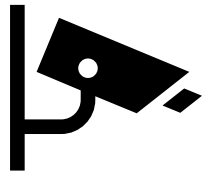
Balance accountability w/understanding



Collaborate



Support Compliance



Mitigate risk of further victimization



Advocate for Justice-Involved Victims



How can we work
toward a more
trauma-informed
response?



Questions?

Contact us!

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