Family Assessment Response (FAR) – Essex County, NY

Report taken at NY SCR and sent to Essex County

Report *initially* eligible for FAR track

FAR is the preferred response unless the report is required by SSL 427-a to be investigated or ineligible according to local protocol.

Allegations involving ...
- Maltreatment
- Lack of supervision
- Medical neglect
- Educational neglect
- Family conflict
- Inadequate guardianship

(case by case)

Report ineligible for FAR track

Allegations involving ...
- A report required by SSL 427-a to be investigated (sexual abuse, assault, murder, manslaughter, failure to thrive, abandonment)
- Children taken into protective custody
- Licensed facilities (day care, family day care, foster homes)
- Cross county reports, subsequent reports on open investigations, and open CPS monitored cases
- Domestic violence where CPS safety interventions and neglect/abuse petitions are going to be necessary
- In-home criminal activity related to substance and abuse/neglect petitions will be necessary
- Withholding medical care or severe diminishment of parenting skills where neglect/abuse petitions are going to be necessary

Request permission for initial contact
via phone call or face-to-face request

Safety assessment begun within 24 hours & completed within 7 days

Children considered SAFE & case continues in FAR track

Children considered UNSAFE per safety assessment

Traditional investigation occurs

CPS designates report as FAR in Connections within 7 days, which informs SCR of FAR assignment

SCR classifies report as FAR & keeps records for 10 years

New safety concern arises & FAR worker calls in new report to hotline

Written notice to each parent or guardian with legal responsibility for child(ren) *within 7 days*

Notice explains:
FAR track; intent of CPS to meet family's needs without traditional CPS investigation; and worker is mandated reporter

Family –Led Assessment

Look with family at their strengths, wishes, concerns and needs & support family stabilization
Assessment tool: TBD (to be completed within 30 days & updated when substantive changes made)

Plan and provide services/resources that are responsive to the needs of the family (use service plan form)

Evaluate family's progress <u>jointly</u> with family

FAR closure within 90 days w/ flexibility

Case closed with Agency

Receiving **Community Based Services**

Case open for **Preventive Services**