

Differential Response in Oregon

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Differential Response

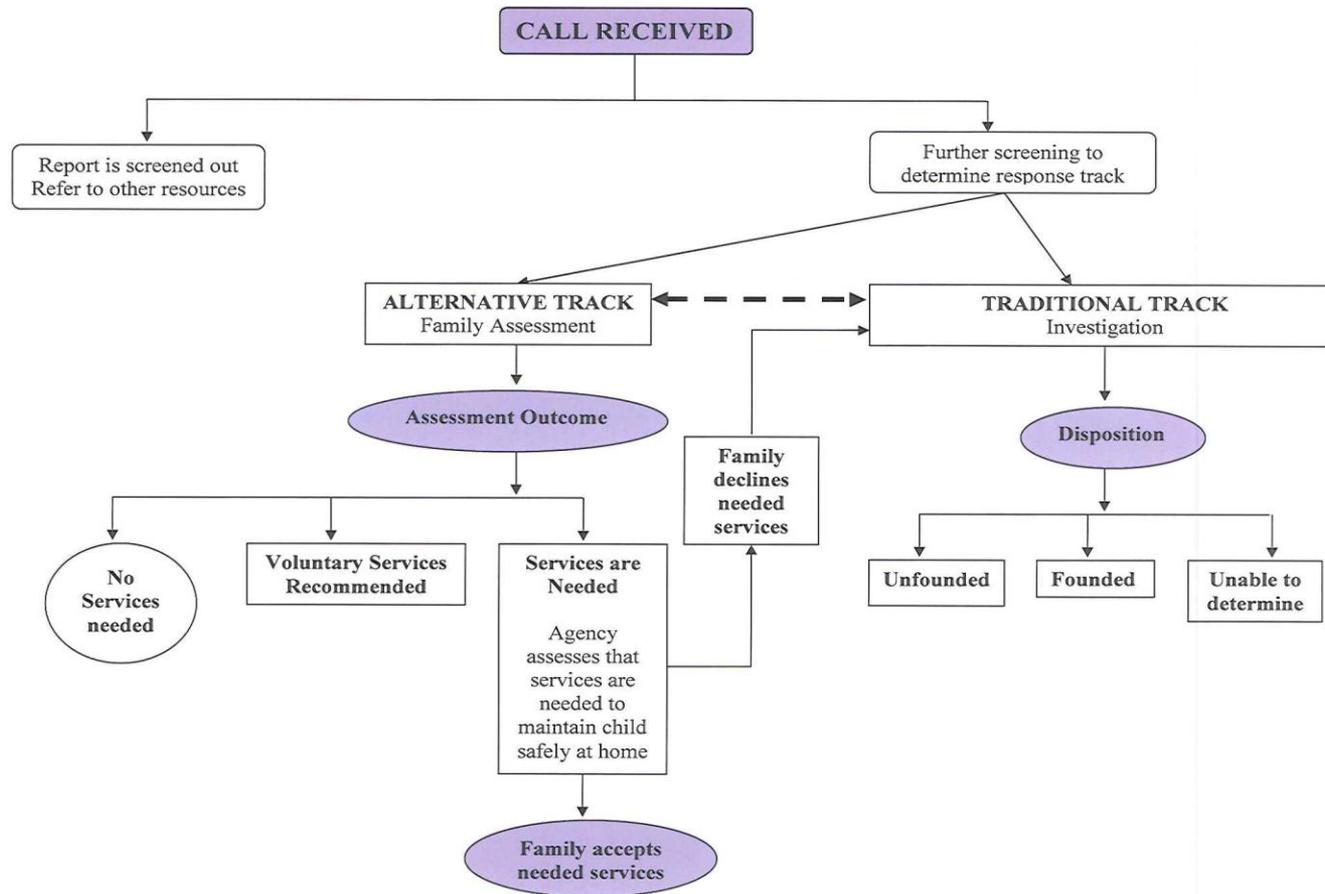
What is it?

An additional track of intervention within the Child Welfare system.

Why do we want it?

The complexity of cases has increased as have the challenges families face. We want to make the system more responsive to the families and the issues they are encountering.

A Model for Differential Response



Differential Response

Why now?

- Neglect dominates the founded allegations of abuse in Oregon.
- In 2010, children who experienced neglect, entered foster care at a higher rate than other categories of abuse, and stayed longer.

What about the Oregon Safety Model?

- Many of the strategies used to design the Oregon Safety Model are essential components of Differential Response.

Differential Response

What do we hope to accomplish?

- Reduced entry in foster care.
- Reduced repeat maltreatment.
- Families expressing greater satisfaction with agency intervention.
- Families are better connected to their communities.

Differential Response

What is our process for doing this?

- Get necessary staff in place to manage the design and implementation.
- Engage technical support and consultation to assist in the process.
- Provide training for staff and partners.
- Promulgate rules and procedure to support the practice change.

Differential Response

What do we hope to avoid?

- Some states have tried Differential Response and reversed the system changes, mostly because of lack of legislative and executive support.
- We don't want to create something that can't be sustained.
- We want a system of supports that meets the needs of rural as well as urban communities, and a diversity of cultures.

Differential Response

- Effective implementation of Differential Response is enhanced by the availability of a rich array of services and a strong community network of support.
- The next presentation will introduce Strengthening, Preserving and Reunifying Families Programs.
- Implementation of these two initiatives will create a more responsive system and better meet the needs of families and children.