

**N**o one likes to think about the sad fact that some children need a protection team. But they do. In Collier County, such children can be identified, treated, protected and given hope by people who have dedicated their professional lives to this vital community service.

The Child Protection Team (CPT) steps into action at a time of crisis. We understand that families in crisis require the expertise of many professionals whose goal is appropriate intervention to ensure the child's safety.

Composing the Team are a Medical Director, Pediatricians, Executive Director, Psychological Consultant, Child Protection Specialists, Attorney and Support Staff. Each of the Child Protection Specialists possesses professional credentials and experience in either nursing or social work.

The Collier County CPT has met the stringent requirements to be awarded the designation of Full Member of the National Children's Alliance, a country-wide network of child advocacy centers.

Established in 1986, the Collier County Child Advocacy Council, Inc., operates as our governing board. Your donations to the Council qualify for a tax deduction as allowed for any 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization.

Child Protection Team, under the auspices of Collier County Child Advocacy Council, Inc., has two locations to serve the community:

### Main Office

1034 Sixth Avenue North  
Naples, Florida 34102  
239-263-8383  
239-263-7931 (fax)  
[www.cptcollier.org](http://www.cptcollier.org)

Hours: 8 AM to 5 PM, Sun. - Fri.  
on call 24 hr.

### Satellite Office

Career and Resource Center  
401 Colorado Avenue  
Immokalee, Florida 34142  
(By appointment)

Child Protection Team is sponsored by the Collier County Child Advocacy Council, Inc., State of Florida Department of Health, State of Florida Office of the Attorney General and the United Way of Collier County.



# CHILD PROTECTION TEAM

COLLIER COUNTY  
CHILD ADVOCACY COUNCIL, INC.



- Medical
- Social
- Psychological
- Legal
- Training & Education

# CHILD PROTECTION TEAM

CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER  
OF COLLIER COUNTY

## SERVICES AVAILABLE

### Medical:

- Diagnosis and evaluation by CPT Pediatrician to identify abuse or neglect
- Laboratory tests and x-rays which may be employed in the diagnostic process
- CPT Pediatrician available for court testimony

### Social:

- 24-hour-a-day crisis intervention
- Intake conference/interviewing
- Coordination between all agencies providing services to child and/or family
- Assessments of family dynamics
- Courtroom orientation for children
- Court testimony by Child Protection Specialist

### Psychological:

- Evaluations and assessments by Team consultant
- Short-term counseling
- Court testimony by Team consultant

### Legal:

- Consultations by Team attorney with other Team professionals

### Training and Education:

- For community professionals— education in the dynamics of child abuse/neglect
- For community organizations— education in child abuse/neglect and its prevention

## OUR MISSION:

To minimize trauma to abused children and enhance families' capabilities to provide a safe environment for children. This is achieved by utilizing a cooperative, multi-disciplinary team approach to the identification, intervention and treatment of child abuse and neglect.

## MANDATORY REPORTING

Florida law requires reporting of suspected child abuse or neglect to the Department of Children and Families (DCF). Any person who knows of, or has reason to suspect, such abuse must report to the Child Abuse Hotline using a toll-free number: 1-800-96-ABUSE. The law requires DCF to investigate and treat any child so reported.

## REFERRAL PROCESS

Our local Child Protection Team number, 263-8383, is answered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The on-call Child Protection Specialist will provide immediate consultation.

If CPT is contacted and the reporter declines to contact the Child Abuse Hotline, CPT will make that report.

## REFERRALS THAT COME TO CPT

- Burns, bruises or fractures in children under the age of 5, or any non-ambulatory child
- Unexplained or implausibly explained burns, bruises or fractures of a child at any age
- Reports of inappropriate sexual contact, i.e. vaginal or anal penetration, fondling, oral sex or pornography involving persons under 18
- Venereal disease in children prior to puberty
- Neglect – either medical, physical or emotional
- Malnutrition and failure to thrive
- Suspicion of emotional abuse when child exhibits symptoms of severe emotional problems
- Follow-up on siblings of any child who died of suspected abuse or neglect