Alternative Response: Keeping children safe by engaging families

PROVEN OUTCOMES
- No negative impact on child safety
- Recurrence of child and neglect reports decreased
- Improved family engagement and better connections to resources

ALTERNATIVE RESPONSE: FAMILY ASSESSMENT
- Appropriate for low risk cases with no serious physical or mental injury to the child
- Focus is a plan and referrals to engage the family
- Same response timelines as investigatory response
- Cases can be reassigned at any time during the process

TRADITIONAL RESPONSE: INVESTIGATION
- Appropriate for high risk cases (sexual abuse, death or a serious physical or mental injury)
- Focus is a formal finding against the alleged abuser

REPORT OF ALLEGED MALTREATMENT
- Report is screened for maltreatment
- Local department screening determines next steps

SCREENED OUT REPORT
- 1) referred to other LDSS service
- 2) referred to community resource
- 3) no action needed, referral closed

LOCAL DEPARTMENT SCREENING
- YES
- NO