



COMMISSION TO ELIMINATE
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT FATALITIES

DRAFT CECANF Final Report

Proposed Glossary Terms

Child protective services (CPS) agency: The state or county agency with legal responsibility for screening, investigating, and responding to reports of child abuse and neglect.

Child welfare system: A multisystem community response to ensure the well-being of children. The CPS agency has a significant role to play in a community's child welfare system, particularly to ensure safety when a child is at imminent risk of harm. However, a community's child welfare system is much larger than the CPS agency, including health care professionals, social service providers, education systems, law enforcement, and all other formal and informal support systems that collectively serve as touchpoints for families at risk of child abuse and neglect.

Population health approach: A population health approach emphasizes the identification of populations who are at risk (in this case of severely injuring or killing their child), the relative distribution of those outcomes across families with different profiles, the targeted engagement models that will be necessary to prevent harm within the highest risk families, the appropriate delivery of interventions, and the measurement of whether outcomes were improved.