How Does the CAC Model Work?

Law Enforcement's focus is to determine if a crime has been committed and to gather information and evidence necessary to hold an offender accountable.

Department of Child Safety is involved when a parent or caregiver is accused of the abuse of a child or when they have not protected a child from abuse. Their focus is child safety.

Immediate Response

Priority Assigned

Child is brought to Southwest Family Advocacy Center

Joint investigation begins: Forensic Interview, Witness Interview, Medical Treatment and Exam and Crisis Counseling.

Advocacy Center coordinates Case Review with all members of multi-disciplinary team; law enforcement, prosecution, child protective services, forensic interviewer, medical professional, therapist, victim advocate.

Suspect arrested and charged. Case filed with Maricopa County Attorney's Office.

Case opened for services; child may be removed from home.

Child and family receive mental health services and victim advocate works with family to assess critical resources and provide support as the case moves through the justice system.