

Sample “Statements of Affiliation”

The agencies which are parties to this agreement resolve that a reciprocal relationship exists between each agency providing helping services to children and their families. The participating agencies deem critical the need for cooperation and coordination among themselves in order to insure the child and his/her family receive needed quality services. The intent of this agreement is to facilitate communication, understanding, connection of services, and allocation of resources among agencies. The agreeing parties support the notion that a direct relationship exists between coordination of our efforts and the outcome in observable terms for the child and his/her family. The participants to this agreement are committed to a collaborative approach in resolving case needs of the child and his/her family. Agencies participating in this agreement recognize the professionalism, competence, and dedication of their colleagues from the other disciplines. The participating agencies acknowledge this agreement as a fluid document subject to change as needs dictate. The participating agencies further acknowledge that additional agencies or organizations may become a party to this agreement.

This protocol is offered to assist all children, both victims and witnesses, and to serve as a model for handling child abuse cases within _____ County. The goal is to treat children with dignity and respect and to minimize secondary trauma that is so often associated with child abuse investigations.

This protocol is intended to provide guidelines and a reference source for interagency cooperation in the investigation, prosecution, and management of child physical and sexual abuse cases. While it is recognized each agency has its own mandate to fulfill, we also acknowledge no **one** agency can fully address the problem of child abuse. Therefore, each agency must be cognizant of the needs of the victim, as well as sensitive to the needs of other professionals involved. We have chosen to make the best interest of children our overriding concern where any interagency conflict may exist.

Joined in the effort to mobilize our different strengths, the members of the Team name endeavored to: 1) clarify each agency’s duties and responsibilities; 2) limit the number of interviews of the child victim; and 3) provide a consistent and efficient approach to the investigation, prosecution and management of child abuse cases in _____ County.

It is the purpose of the child protection agency, law enforcement agencies, and the Commonwealth's Attorney's office, in joint cooperation, to provide a coordinated, inter-disciplinary approach to handling child physical abuse, sexual abuse, and neglect cases through joint efforts that will minimize the trauma to the child victim while maximizing all evidence gathering efforts.

Maximize the protection of children and community safety by maximizing interagency cooperation through valuing the expertise of each discipline.

The following is an Agreement among the _____ County Department of Social Services, the _____ County Police Department, and the Commonwealth's Attorney's Office for the investigation of sexual abuse, severe physical abuse, and severe neglect cases.

This Agreement between the parties is for the purpose of establishing a _____ County Team name. The Team will focus on investigation, treatment, and prosecution in cases involving children who have been abused and/or neglected by parents or other caretakers.

The agreeing agencies support the notion that a direct relationship exists between the coordination of agency efforts and the outcome in observable terms for the child and his/her family.