



**POLICY COLLABORATIVE
FOR CHILDREN
& FAMILIES**

Vision for the Mandatory Reporting Task Force (From 12/7/2022 Meeting)

Bold and impactful

- Capitalize on task force's shared passion
- A shining example for other states, setting the standard
- Innovative
- Actual change, systems change, actionable and implementable change
- Dismantle the current system

Adaptive, continues to evolve

- Implement measures to evaluate impact of changes
- Ensure it's relevant and being implemented the way we envision it

Overlay an equity lens

- If not equitable, not effective

Align intent and impact

- A meaningful paradigm shift in the way we think about MR and the child welfare response
- Philosophy - Child welfare is best provided by family most of the time
- Change language
- Right-sizing child welfare, not such a wide net, focused on the right things and the right kids
 - Scalpel versus a blunt instrument
- Problematic when main motivation is fear

Change public perception

- Decrease fear and increase transparency

What will it look like if we get this right?

De-stigmatize MR – get help for families because they are concerned

Support before report, Help and not harm, A tool and a resource versus punishment

- Works to support families and keep children safe
- Partner for best outcomes for children (versus the idea you can't support both children and parents)

- Reduce harm to children and families
- Deal with one issue without creating more, triggering multiple system responses

Clarity

- Simplify – shouldn't need a law degree to understand
 - Expectations, laws, practices
- Standardized training
 - Implicit bias, trauma-informed and domestic violence
- Definition and standards for abuse and neglect
- Support for reporters
 - Clarify use of discretion
 - Clarify elements of failure to report
- Alignment and collaboration across agencies/teams
- Gather enough and the right information at the start, accuracy of reports
 - Ability to interview MR

Center on communities most impacted, amplify voice of parents and children

- Reducing disproportionality – addressing bias, doing the real work
- Trauma-informed response and care
- Trust and confidence, confidence that families are being treated fairly