



Dena Murphy
Director

For immediate release

March 23, 2020

The Kern County Department of Human Services continues to provide Child Protection Services

Child Protective Services (CPS) continues to respond to callers and investigate reports of child abuse and neglect. Protecting children and assisting families in Kern County is our number one goal.

Our Social Workers are working remotely throughout Kern County and are maintaining contact with all of the children and families that we serve. We continue to respond to and investigate suspected child abuse and neglect referrals and all other immediate safety concerns.

Our Social Workers are available and providing services via email, phone calls and other technology but not limited to video chatting, Face Time and Skype. We are still responding in person, when warranted, to referrals of abuse and neglect.

When the need arises to have an in home visit, our Social Workers screen families and asked if anyone in the home has tested positive for COVID-19 or if anyone in the home is sick or has been exposed to COVID-19. If the answer is positive, necessary precautions are taken, and our staff are abiding by all CDC guidelines.

In following our Governor's guidelines, we are suspending in person visitations and our Social Service Lobby located at 100 E. California is closed through April 13, 2020.

If you suspect child abuse or neglect, please call the Child Abuse Hotline at 661-631-6011 & in Ridgecrest 760-375-6049. You can report child abuse 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. For emergencies, call 9-1-1.

For more information visit our website at www.kcdhs.org.

For media inquiries, contact Jana Slagle at 661-342-8054 or Ally Triolo at 661-556-0376.

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