

During fiscal year 2011-2012, DSS investigated nearly 16,000 reports of suspected child abuse and/or neglect involving families. In January 2012 the South Carolina Department of Social Services implemented two alternate options (Family Strengthening Services and Voluntary Case Management) for CPS reports appearing to involve less risk to the children and began using the Appropriate Response tool. This tool guides intake staff through an assessment of safety and risk of all the children in the report and helps staff make referrals to services that best meet the needs of the children and family.

