

Colorado Office of Respondent Parents' Counsel – Preventive Legal Services Program



Pilot –2022 Jefferson County/1st Judicial District
Jill Cohen, LCSW, Program Director

Colorado Chief Justice Directive 16-02*



- ✓ High quality legal representation in court
- ✓ Practice standards for attorneys
- ✓ Observations
- ✓ Training
- ✓ Consultation
- ✓ Complaints
- ✓ Resources: Experts, Investigators, Interpreters & Social Workers/Advocates
- ✓ Pilot programs

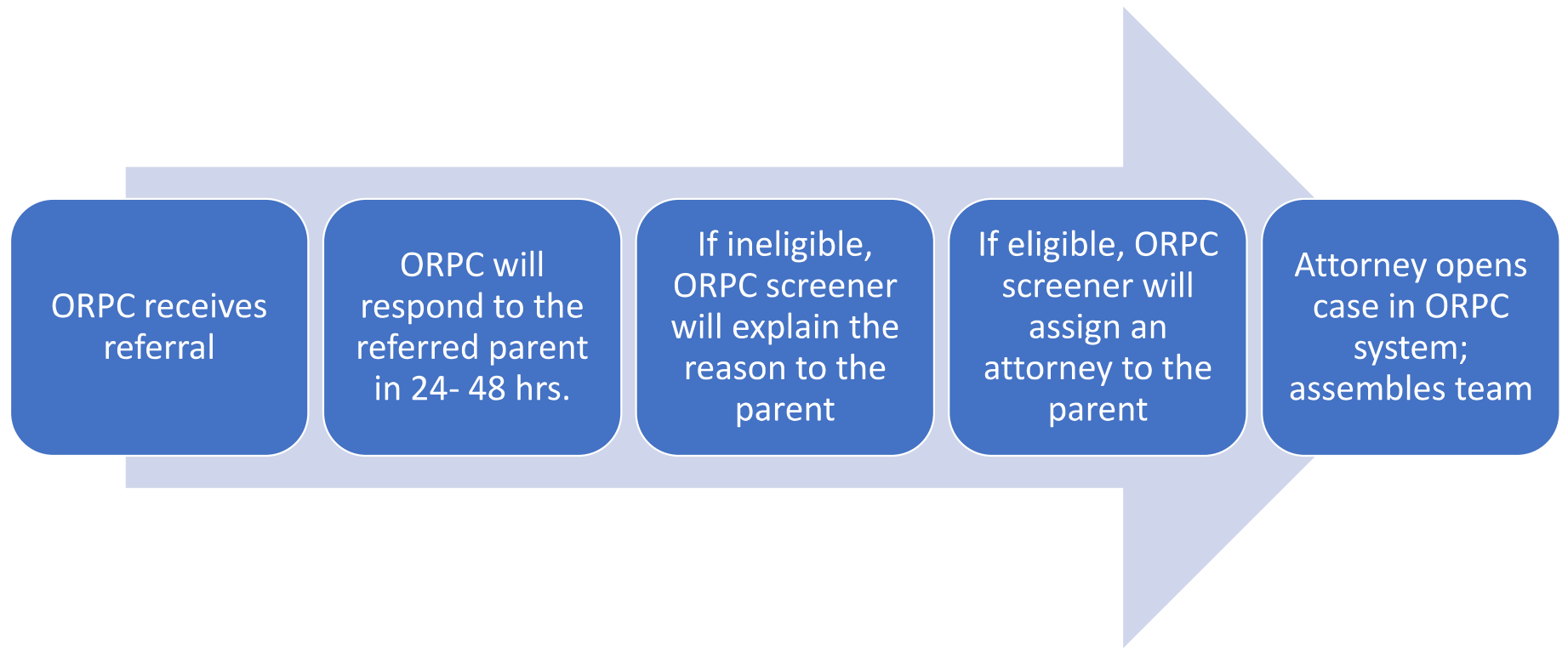
Preventive Legal Services Goals

Identify	Represent	Continuity	Population	Data
Identify families struggling with unmet legal needs impacting safety	Provide legal representation and support to keep children home safely Social work/advocacy outside of court	Continue legal representation if D&N filed	Serve 50 families in 1st year	Track referrals and outcomes Track families six months post case closing

Eligibility requirements

- Parent resides in Jefferson County
- Parent meets the indigency requires for court-appointed counsel
- Family has a current unmet legal need that is causing a child safety concern
- No Dependency & Neglect petition has been filed in court
- Parent does not have legal counsel

Referral Process

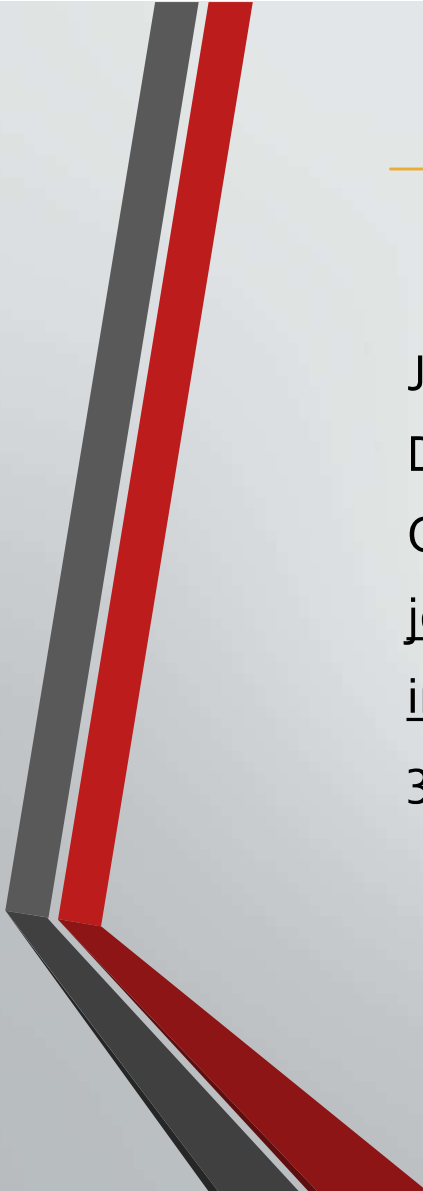


Tracking - Data

Billing system tracks how much **time** team members spend on every **in court** and **out of court activity**; ORPC database **closing screen** requires **outcomes** for each intervention.

RPPS Legal Services outcomes: select all that apply

- **Pre D&N Filing child welfare advocacy**
 - No pre D&N filing child welfare advocacy needed
 - Continued child welfare voluntary involvement without need for legal support
 - Status of child welfare involvement is unknown
 - Assisted client with removal from the child abuse registry
 - Other
- **Child welfare involvement ended, no further intervention**
 - Children remained home with parent
 - Children living with non parent
- **D&N filed**
 - **RPC continuing representation in D&N case**
 - Children remain in home
 - Children removed, non-kinship placement
 - Children removed, kinship placement
 - **RPC will not continue representation in D&N case**
 - Children remain in home
 - Children removed, non-kinship placement
 - Children removed, kinship placement



Jill Cohen, LCSW

Director of Programs

Office of Respondent Parents' Counsel

jcohen@coloradoorpc.org

intake@coloradoorpc.org

303-731-8750