Before Deciding to File a Report

(and within 24 hours)

THINK CRITICALLY.

ANALYZE EFFECTIVELY.

Consider alternative responses.

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Focus on child safety.

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Provide the family with access to resources & supports.

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Check your bias

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Gather the facts.

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Weigh the pros & cons to reporting.

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When possible to do so safely, communicate with caregivers about the report.

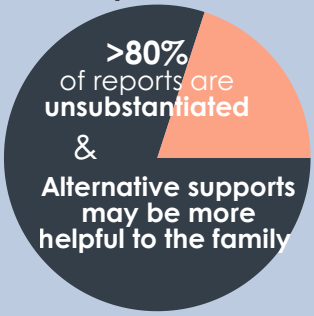
MAKE AN INFORMED DECISION.

CHECKLIST:

- ☑ Do I have reasonable suspicion abuse has occurred?
- ☐ Will I meet the 24 hour deadline for the report?
- ☐ Is the child or youth currently safe?
- ☐ Have I considered other resources or supports for the family?
- ☐ Have I considered the influence of my biases on the report?
- ☐ Is my decision based on fact?
- ☐ Have I respected the family's autonomy & cultural practices?
- ☐ Is my intention in the best interest of the child, rather than liability?
- ☐ Am I giving a respectful and objective account of my concerns?
- ☐ Did I consult with a colleague or supervisor?

REMINDERS:

Why PAUSE ?



What type(s) of abuse do you suspect?

- Physical
- Emotional
- Risk of Harm
- Neglect
- Sexual
- Abandonment

What resources might help this family?

- Food or Housing
- Parenting/Family
- Employment
- Treatment for Substances
- Mental Health
- Community