

You need help with your child

the Bumpy Road

Easy English fact sheets for parents dealing with the child protection system. Advice from parents with experience.



It is hard to be a parent.

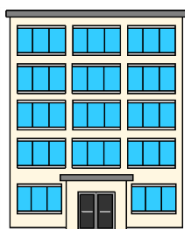


You can get help.

And



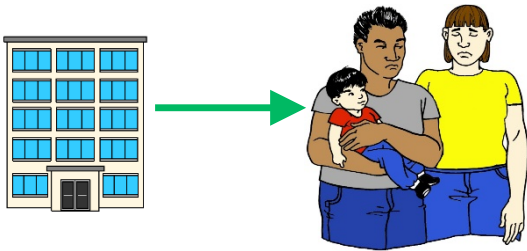
Read our fact sheet **Keep your child safe.**



You can ask Community Services for help.

This is good.

But



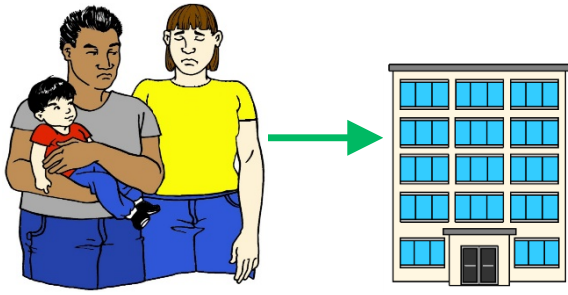
Sometimes Community Services may come to you.



It is good to get help if Community Services contact you.

You can ask for help from a

- Lawyer
- Advocate
- Support person



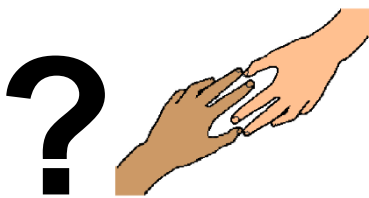
You ask for help



It is good to ask for help.

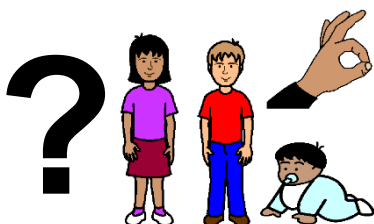
It means you want to do things in a better way.

You can take a support person with you.

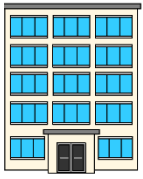


Community Services will

- find out what help you need
- look for who can help you. It will help you learn what you need to do for your child



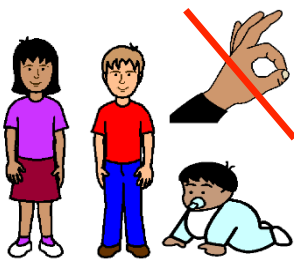
Community services also check
your child is safe



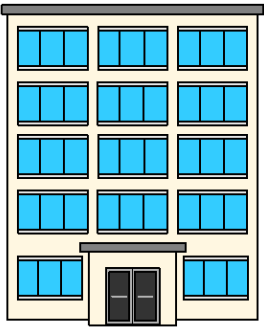
Community Services may come to you



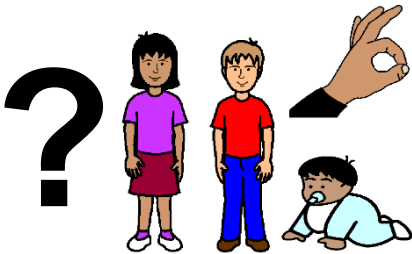
They got a report from someone in
the community. Like your child's teacher.
It is called a Child Protection Report.



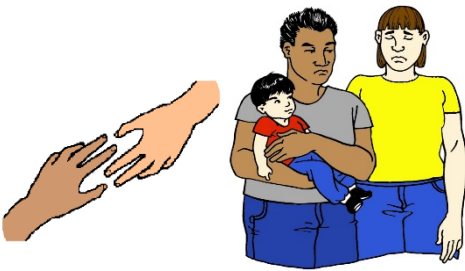
It says your child may **not** be safe.



What can Community Services do?



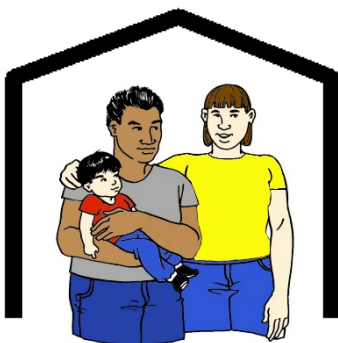
1. Check your child is safe.



2. Look for help for you.

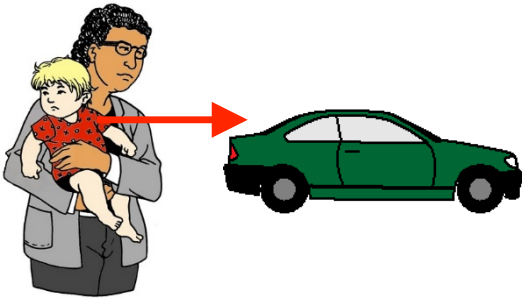


Then

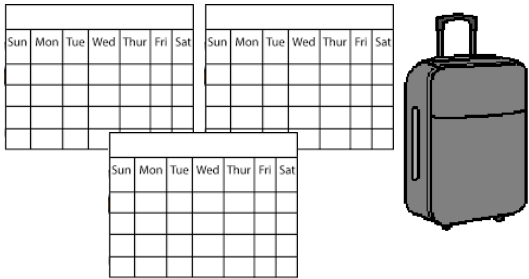


you and your child can stay together.

or



Look for a family to care for your child.



It will be for 3 months. It is called **temporary care arrangement**.



Read more about **temporary care arrangement** in our fact sheet **New words**.



3. Meet with you.

They want your child to be safe.

They will tell you things you need to do.



Then

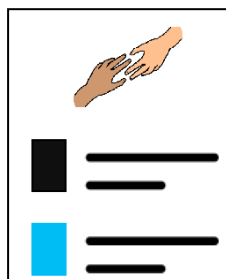


They will make a plan with you.

It will help you do those things.



Then



They write it all down. You can ask for it
in a way you can read and use.

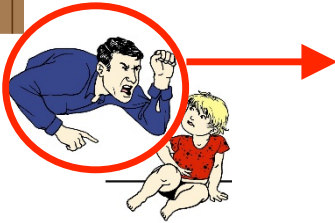
Like in Easy English.

It will look like this fact sheet.





Then

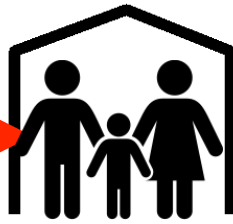


You need to do everything in the plan. Like

- keep your home clean
- keep unsafe people away from your child.

Like a new partner who hits your child

This is called a **Safety plan**.



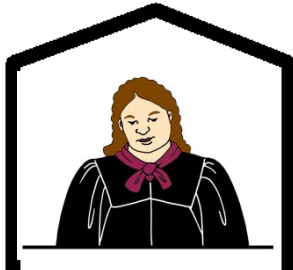
4. Take your child to live somewhere else.

They do **not** think your child is safe.

This called to **remove your child**.



Then



You need to go to court about your child.



We have fact sheets that may help you.

Look on our website www.bumpyroad.org.au

Read these fact sheets

- What is a safety plan?
- Community Services knock on your door
- Community Services say your child is **not safe**.

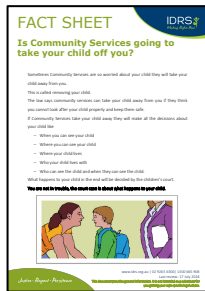
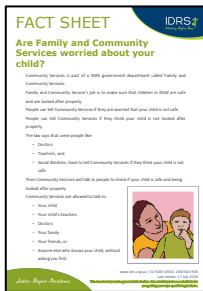


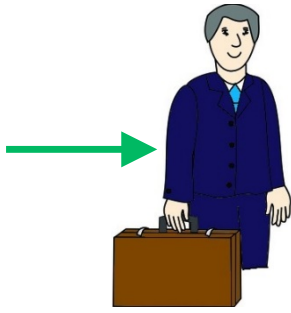
More information

The Ability Rights Centre made fact sheets.

See IDRS website www.idrs.org.au

- Are Family and Community Services worried about your child?
- Working with Community Services to keep your child safe
- Is Community Services going to take your child off you?





This fact sheet is general information.

It may **not** be the same for you.

Talk to a lawyer about

- your own child
- your family.



This fact sheet was made by

- The WASH House
- The Ability Rights Centre. A service of IDRS
with
- a Parent Advisory Group, 2020.



Images

We have used images from



- ChangePeople
- Mayer-Johnson
- Picto-Selector.



Access Easy English helped The WASH House write the Easy English. February 2020.