



F.A.S.T.

1-800-327-8119

1-800-F.A.S.T.-119

Foster Allegations Support Team

FAST@floridafapa.org

Learning Objectives

1. Learn about FAST
2. Explore the survey and responses FL FAPA & QPI did in 2022 with foster parents about investigations
3. Learn the best approach during an investigation that strengthens communication between caregivers, licensing and investigations
4. Learn about supports and tools in this approach that support licensed caregivers during an investigations process.



Floridafapa.org

<https://floridafapa.org/fast-allegation-support/>

The screenshot displays the website for floridafapa.org. At the top, the URL 'floridafapa.org' is shown. Below it, a red banner reads 'Facing An Allegation or Abuse Report? CONTACT FAST 1-800-327-8119'. The main header features the 'FLORIDA FAPA' logo with a sun icon, and the tagline 'Support | Educate | Advocate'. A search bar with the text 'search here ...' and a 'Go' button is present. A dark navigation bar contains the text 'FAST – Allegation Support' and a hamburger menu icon. The main content area has a white background and features the section title 'FAST – Allegation Support' in orange. Below this, a paragraph states: 'No matter what and when, The Foster Allegation Support Team is here for you! Call 800.327.8119 or email fast@floridafapa.org. Looking for a future F.A.S.T. training — check the calendar ... or email us.' Another section titled 'Purpose' in orange follows, with the text: 'Our goal is to provide support to the foster, adoptive or kinship parents when allegations have been, or might be brought against them. It is important to keep them informed of the procedures and the process through which an allegation will take them'.

floridafapa.org

Facing An Allegation or Abuse Report?
CONTACT FAST 1-800-327-8119

FLORIDA FAPA
Support | Educate | Advocate

search here ... Go

FAST – Allegation Support

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No matter what and when, The Foster Allegation Support Team is here for you! Call 800.327.8119 or email fast@floridafapa.org. Looking for a future F.A.S.T. training — check the calendar ... or email us.

Purpose

Our goal is to provide support to the foster, adoptive or kinship parents when allegations have been, or might be brought against them. It is important to keep them informed of the procedures and the process through which an allegation will take them

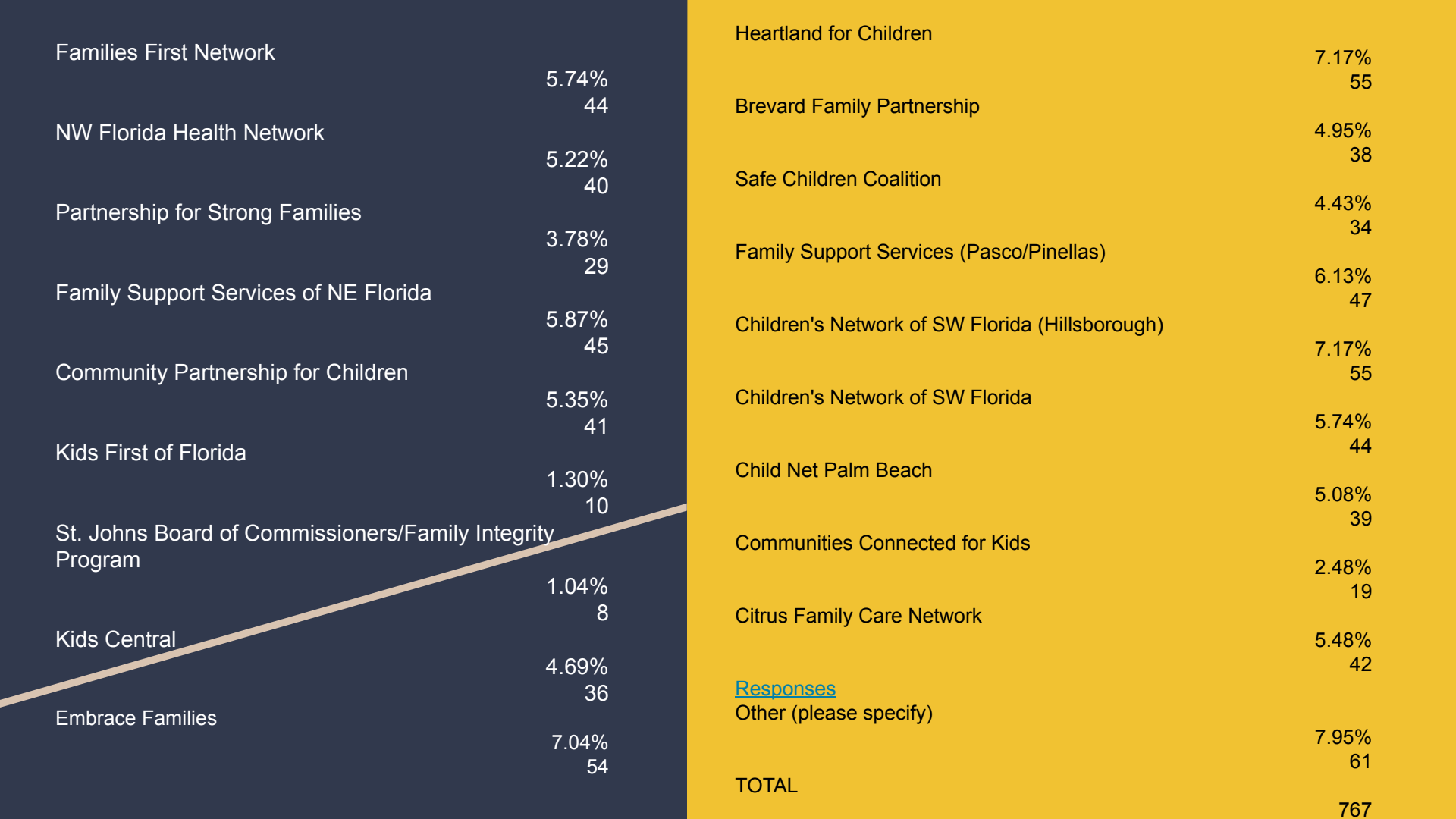
The Survey!

*Breezing through the
data*

Survey in September 2022
focusing on Caregiver
Experiences with Caregiver
Allegations & the Investigation
Process;

763 Participants;

Every CBC across Florida
was represented



Local FAPA Involvement

Is there a local FAPA(Foster Adoptive Parent Association) organization or local support group for foster parents in your area?

53% Yes

14% No

32% Didn't Know

If yes, do you actively participate in your local FAPA organization or support care organization?

28% Yes

72% No

Let's talk Local!

Local FAPA's & CBC's

FAPA's <https://floridafapa.org/contact/local-fapa/>

CBC's <https://floridafapa.org/community-based-care/>

Have you been a party to a foster parent referral and/or investigation in the last 12- 36 months?

29%
Yes

71% NO

If you have been involved in a foster parent referral or investigation, was it within the last (Select all that apply.)

Last 12 Months:
68%

12-24 Months:
19%

24-36 Months:
18%

How many times have you had an allegation in the past 5 years?

Once: 67%

Twice: 19%

Three Times:
9%

Four Times: 2%

Five Times: 3%

What's the Difference anyway?

**Foster care referrals do NOT
meet the criteria for
abuse/neglect investigations**

**Investigations involve risk of
harm to the child.**

How were you notified of the allegation? (Select all that apply.)



Phone Call: 29%



Home Visit: 65%



Text: 5%



Email: 2%



Other: 24% (Show up with law enforcement; kids removed at school; no notice; etc.)

Who conducted the interview about the allegation? (Select all that apply.)

If the interview was conducted by DCF CPI or Sheriff's Officer CPI, did the licensing specialist come out with the CPI?

If the interview was conducted by the DCF CPI or Sheriff's Office CPI AND the licensing specialist was also present, did you feel supported during the allegation interview by your licensing specialist?

Licensing Worker: 41%

Sheriff's Office Deputy: 24%

Sheriff's Office CPI: 20%

DCF CPI: 62%

Other: 12%

N/A: 17%

Yes: 27%

No: 55%

N/A: 51%

Yes: 27%

No: 21%

A DCF Investigator
responds to allegations
except in 7 areas:

Walton
Pinellis
Pasco
Manatee
Hillsborough
Seminole
Broward



Change coming July 1 or October 1
all investigations will be via DCF

From the Hotline the case goes to the area for investigation

Were you provided details about the reason for the allegation?

Yes: 82%

No: 18%

Were you informed of your rights?

Yes: 39%

No: 61%

Were you provided information on FAST or other support?

Yes: 20%

No: 80%

Local FAPA Involvement

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14% No

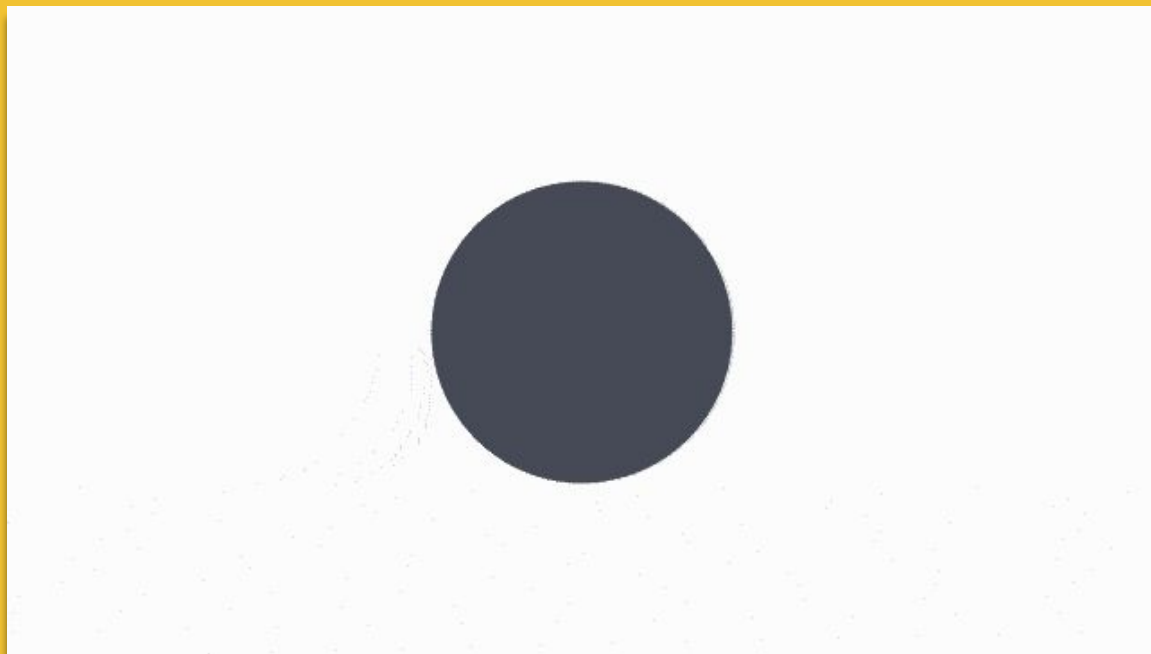
32% Didn't Know

If yes, do you actively participate in your local FAPA organization or support care organization?

28% Yes

72% No

Call the F.A.S.T. hotline for support!



It's okay to stop and breathe.

So What Does F.A.S.T. Do



People who have been accused of abuse often experience the same types of symptoms as those who have actually been abused.

Anger

Frustration

Violated

Shame

Abused

Unappreciated

Assault on Integrity



F.A.S.T. is to prepare you **when** an allegation is filed on you.

NOT IF,
WHEN

The dreaded words:

It's not **IF** it's

WHEN

Local FAPA Involvement

Did you understand if the investigation was an allegation or review (licensing referral)?

Yes: 64%

No: 36%

Was a staffing for the investigation held (Please note this is different from a regular child staffing for dependency case.)?

Yes: 47%

No: 53%

If an investigation staffing was held so, how long did it take for it to occur?

Answers varied from immediately to what felt like forever



Yes: 29%



No: 56:



Other (Primarily don't recall or N/A) : 14%

Were you kept updated on the investigation process?

Yes: 32%

No: 55%

Other (Primarily by the request of caregiver): 13%

During the investigation/allegation process, how would you rate the communication by

How long did it take for the case to be closed?

Licensing Agency Staff

☐ 30 days or less: 50%

Case Management Agency Staff

☐ Between 30 and 45 days: 14%

Investigation Agency Staff

☐ Between 45 and 60 days: 9%

GAL Agency Staff

☐ More than 60 days: 27%

Very close #'s in order of most communication to least w/i .2 of each other

Pointers for Dealing With an Allegation

- Insist on full participation during the investigation.
- Be sure to get the name and email of everyone involved in the investigation
 - Staffings
 - Communications



- What's the process in your area?
- Who are the people that can support you?
- What rights do you have?
- Is every area different?

MORE SURVEY SURVEY SURVEY

Was your home put on hold during the investigation?

Yes: 44% No: 56%

Were the children removed from your home during the investigation?

Yes: 15% No: 80%

Were you allowed to visit or communicate with the children while they were removed from your home?

Yes: 7% No: 18%

If children were removed during the investigation, were they returned to you when the investigation was closed?

Yes: 7% No: 19%



Decision to relocate must be determined on a case-by-case basis.



Placement stability is highest priority unless CPI believes there is clear and compelling information that child safety is compromised.



When child safety is not an issue, but the CPI or foster parent is concerned about a child remaining in the home, the CPI collaborates with the foster parents and the supervising agency to determine if the child can remain in home.

Children being removed!

MORE SURVEY SURVEY SURVEY

Did you decide to voluntarily close your home after the allegations were made and the investigation process was completed?

Yes: 5% No: 80%

Were you made aware of the 120 hearing for home closing?

Yes: 4% No: 96%

Prior to the allegations, did you try to recruit other people to serve as foster parents?

Yes: 65% No: 35%

If you did try to recruit other foster parents, are you still recruiting people to serve as foster parents even after your allegation/investigation experience?

Yes: 45% No: 55%

Hey, but how about this.....



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Giving - Speak
Search results...
Stuck At Prom...
HomCom 45" T...
My Drive - Goo...
FAST Virtual Co...
My Drive - Goo...
Search Policies
My Drive - Goo...
Office of Inspe...


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Appeal Hearings

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Office of Inspector General

Appeal Hearings

Authorities and Resources

This information is being provided by the Appeal Hearings Section to assist with understanding the administrative hearing process used by hearing officers of the Department. It is important to remember that the information presented is general and does not cover all situations that may arise in a case.

Jurisdictional authority for the Appeals Hearing Section to conduct administrative hearings is provided by §§ [409.285\(1\), F.S.](#), [120.80\(7\), F.S.](#), [400.0255\(8\), F.S.](#), and [393.125, F.S.](#).

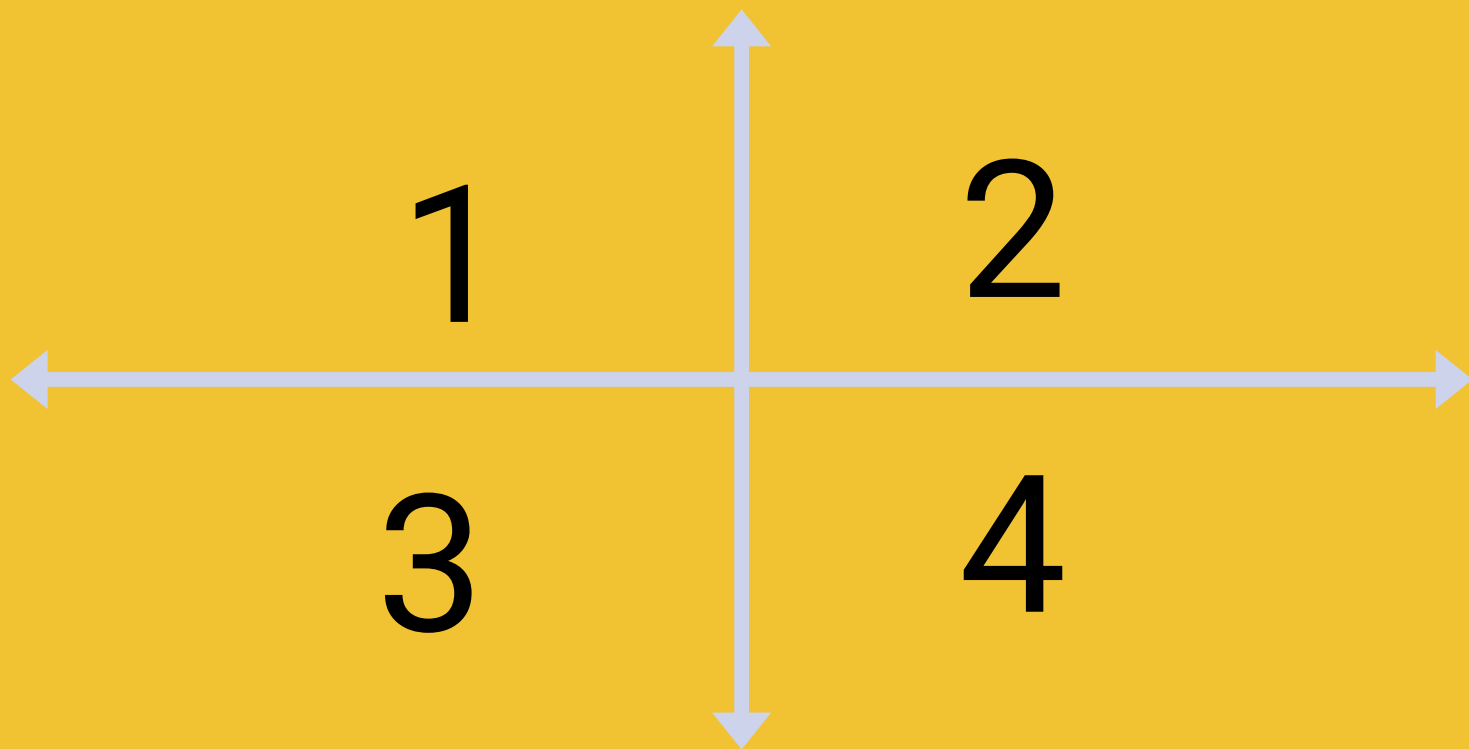
Authority for administrative hearings conducted by the Appeal Hearings Section include the Florida Administrative Procedures Act ([Chapter 120, F.S.](#)), the Uniform Rules ([Rule 28-106, F.A.C.](#)), the Appeal Hearings Rules of Practice and Procedure ([Rule 65-2, F.A.C.](#)), and state and federal program regulations.



“The 120 Hearing”



FALSE REPORTS - CFOP 170-5 Chapter 24



GET READY..... 1-2-3-4



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