

Child Abuse Interdisciplinary Team Of Greater Waterbury (CAIT)

Working Together To Help Your Child: The Interview & Investigation Process

An accredited member of the National Children's Alliance

What Can I Expect From CAIT?

We understand that it is a very difficult time for you. Any hint or suspicion of abuse of your child causes many strong and confusing emotions. The process of determining what happened to your child and how to proceed may seem overwhelming. It is our job to work together to reduce the number of times your child will have to be interviewed and to ensure that your family receives swift, necessary support. As such, we have put together commonly asked questions by parents to help make this process move as smoothly as possible. Should you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact Stacey Rubinfeld, Ph.D, CAIT Coordinator at (203) 573-0264 x 321.

► What should I tell my child?

- Explain to your child that he/she will be meeting with someone to talk about what happened to them.
- It is important to tell your child to tell the truth, however, **do not tell your child what to say.**
- Tell your child that the person with whom he or she will be meeting sees children all the time. It is this person's job to talk with children and help make them feel safe.
- Some children may need to be reassured that they are not in trouble and that they are not going to this meeting because they have done something wrong.

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► What is the purpose of my child having a CAIT interview?

- All the necessary professionals are present at the interview, thereby facilitating the CAIT goal of having as few interviews as possible.
- Interview takes place in a non-threatening environment.
- Services for your family will be better coordinated.
- You will meet all the professionals involved in the investigation and have the opportunity to ask questions.

► How does the interview work?

- Your child will be interviewed by a team member who is a trained forensic interviewer.
- Other team members observe through a one-way mirror.
- Video documentation of interview is standard practice.



► What is my role during the interview?

- You will meet the person who will be talking to your child during the interview.
- From our experience, it is important for the interviewer to talk with your child alone.
- While your child is being interviewed, you will have the opportunity to talk with an advocate from Safe Haven.
- Because this is an investigation, the team members must carefully observe, assess, and document the interview. They will be available to respond to your questions and concerns following the interview.

► What will happen after the interview?

- The professionals on the team will meet briefly to discuss the information disclosed in the interview.
- Members of the team will then meet with you to discuss information about your child's interview, answer questions or concerns you may have, and recommendations they may have.
- Your child's case will be discussed in conference with the team to ensure that you and your child receive all necessary services.
- Your child's case may be referred for prosecution.

Interview Date: _____

Interview Time: _____



83 Prospect Street, Waterbury CT 06702
Phone: 203-573-0264 Fax: 203-755-4835
Email: contactus@waterburyyouthservices.org
www.waterburyyouthservices.org

► Agency Contacts:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

*Interviews are conducted at Waterbury Youth Service System, Inc. 83 Prospect Street, Waterbury, CT 06702
Phone: 203-573-0264*

Member Agencies of the CAIT of Greater Waterbury include:

CT Department of Children & Families	203-759-7000
CT State Police, Troop A	203-267-2200
Family Services of Greater Waterbury	203-756-8317
Naugatuck Police Department	203-720-0808
Office of State's Attorney	203-236-8148
Office of the Attorney General	203-805-6322
Office of Probation	203-419-4442
Pediatric Office of Diane Fountas, MD	203-753-6776
Safe Haven of Greater Waterbury	203-753-3613
Superior Court, Juvenile Matters	203-596-4186
Waterbury Police Department	203-574-6941
Waterbury Youth Service System, Inc.	203-573-0264
Watertown Police Department	203-945-5200
Wellmore Behavioral Health for Children and Families	203-756-7287
Wolcott Police Department	203-879-1414



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