

A Guide on What to Expect

When you enter into the NENCAC you will notice that the waiting area is very child-friendly, as is our center as a whole. The waiting area is filled with bright art-work, colorful carpet and couches as well as toys and children's activities.

Depending on what services you are bringing your child for, there will be paperwork that will be filled out ahead of time. Our Family Advocate helps with the paperwork, explaining thoroughly everything that is being signed. At this time our services are explained at length and any questions can be asked and our staff will help to answer them to the best of their abilities.

After paperwork is completed an interview, medical exam and/or hair/nail test will take place.

- In the event of a forensic interview, a child interview specialist will talk to your child one-on-one. There is no law enforcement or child protective services present. We also don't allow parents/guardians in the interview room. This is to reduce the possible stress put on the child and this also helps to provide a neutral setting consistent with positive prosecution outcomes.
- Medical exams are performed by specially trained medical personnel.
- Hair/nail testing is done by NENCAC staff. Each test will be done following United States Drug Testing Laboratory standard procedure. All staff are trained in this process. We cut hair or nails on site and the samples are sent to United States Drug Testing Laboratory for testing. Results take approximately a week and are given to the investigators who then contact parents/guardians with the results.
- After services are complete, law enforcement or child protective services may ask parents/guardians to participate in a short meeting to discuss the investigation. Children are asked to stay in the waiting area with the NENCAC staff and are again welcome to make themselves at home.
- After your appointment counseling referrals can be given out when deemed appropriate or at parent/guardian request. You may expect a follow-up call from the NENCAC Family Advocate to see if the family is in need of other services and also information/updates on the investigation and court process.

