



NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT
OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

New Jersey Department of Children and Families Policy Manual

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SPRU: Philosophy of Intervention 7-5-2011

SPRU serves as an emergency intervention operation to protect children, minimize elements of immediate risk to children, assure children are safe, initiate child protective service investigations, and provide other child/family emergency response measures until CP&P or IAIU day staff can initiate or resume services.

In-depth intervention, case planning or service assessment are activities reserved for handling by LO or IAIU staff during regular business hours.

Using SPRU to handle non-emergent situations as a means of controlling, diverting, or limiting the flow of cases into a county's intake system violates the foundation that guides the Department's After-Hours Response System operation. Such abuse of SPRU compromises its effectiveness, timeliness, budget, and ability to provide quality emergency response throughout the 21 counties of the state in accordance with State statute mandates, any time of the day or night.