ARE YOU A MANDATED REPORTER?

- A person licensed or certified to practice in any health-related field under the jurisdiction of the Department of State.
- A medical examiner, coroner, or funeral director.
- An employee of a health care facility or provider licensed by the Department of Health, who is engaged in the admission, examination, care, or treatment of individuals.
- A school employee.
- An employee of a child-care service who has direct contact with children in the course of employment.
- A clergyman, priest, rabbi, minister, Christian Science practitioner, religious healer, or spiritual leader of any regularly established church or other religious organization.
- An individual paid or unpaid, who, on the basis of the individual’s role as an integral part of a regularly scheduled program, activity or service, is a person responsible for the child’s welfare or has direct contact with children.
- An employee of a social services agency who has direct contact with children in the course of employment.
- A peace officer or law enforcement official.
- An emergency medical services provider certified by the Department of Health.
- An employee of a public library who has direct contact with children in the course of employment.
- An individual supervised or managed by a person listed above, who has direct contact with children in the course of employment.
- An independent contractor who has direct contact with children.
- An attorney affiliated with an agency, institution, organization, or other entity, including a school or regularly established religious organization that is responsible for the care, supervision, guidance, or control of children.
- A foster parent.
- An adult family member who is a person responsible for the child’s welfare and provides services to a child in a family living home, community home for individuals with an intellectual disability or host home for children which are subject to supervision or licensure by the department under Articles IX and X of the Public Welfare Code.

To report suspected child abuse or neglect, call ChildLine at 1-800-932-0313

Mandated Reporters should report online at www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis

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It is your duty to report it, NOT prove it.

Too many children suffer child abuse in silence. Most don’t know what to do, so they do nothing – they say nothing. Pennsylvania’s laws give us the legal right to be their voice.

There are many reasons for not reporting child abuse or neglect. The most common is the concern about being wrong. If you’re right, you may save the life of a child.

All you need is reasonable cause, suspicion, or belief in what you see or don’t see. You do not need to have evidence or actual knowledge of abuse when you make a report.

There are four main types of child abuse or neglect.

They include:

- Physical
- Neglect
- Emotional
- Sexual

### Signs of Child Abuse or Neglect

**Physical Abuse Warning Signs:**
- Bruising, welts, fractures, or burns that cannot be sufficiently explained
- Bruises that resemble objects such as a hand, belt buckle, or rope
- Injuries on children where children don’t usually get injured (e.g., torso, back, neck, ears, buttocks, or thighs)
- Injuries inconsistent with a child’s age or developmental level
- Multiple injuries in various stages of healing
- Withdrawn, fearful or extreme behavior
- Flinches easily or avoids being touched

**Neglect Warning Signs:**
- Often hungry; steals food or begs
- Lack of medical or dental care
- Chronically dirty or uncleaned
- Frequent absence from school
- Frequent fatigue or lack of adequate rest
- Parentified behaviors (child takes on more of a parental/adult role)
- Supervision that is not adequate for a child’s age or developmental level
- Lack of adequate shelter
- Self-destructive feelings or behavior; poor impulse control
- Alcohol or drug abuse

**Emotional Abuse Warning Signs:**
- Speech disorders
- Expresses feelings of inadequacy
- Displays self-harming behaviors
- Shows extremes in behavior such as overly compliant or demanding behavior
- Habit disorders (sucking, biting, rocking, etc.)
- Sleeping problems
- Delays in emotional and intellectual growth

**Sexual Abuse Warning Signs:**
- Difficulty walking or sitting
- Pain or itching in the genital area
- Torn, stained or bloody underclothing
- Frequent complaints of stomachaches or headaches
- Sexually transmitted diseases
- Bruises or bleeding in the genital area
- Feeling threatened by physical contact
- Inappropriate sex play or premature understanding of sex
- Frequent urinary or yeast infections