

YOU ARE A MANDATED CHILD ABUSE REPORTER! COMMON QUESTIONS ABOUT CHILD ABUSE

WHAT IS CHILD ABUSE?

Any physical injury, which is inflicted by other than accidental means on a child by another person. It also includes emotional abuse, sexual abuse, neglect or abuse in out of home care.

WHEN DO I REPORT ABUSE?

If you have reasonable suspicion that harm is coming to a child. The signs are not clear-cut. Your experience is required! Note: It is not your responsibility to investigate the abuse/maltreatment; it is the responsibility of Child Protective Services (C.P.S.) or Law enforcement.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF I DO NOT REPORT THE SUSPICION OF ABUSE?

A person who fails to make a required report is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by up to six months in jail and/or up to a \$1,000.00 fine (P.C. 11172). You may also be found civilly liable for damages.

HOW DO I REPORT CHILD ABUSE?

- Maintain clear records (you do not need "Proof" to report Abuse)
- Call (C.P.S.) immediately at:

1-800-544-8696

24 hours/7 days a week

Or call your local Law Enforcement Agency

- Obtain a written Suspected Child Abuse Report from Solano Family & Children's Services or C.P.S.
- File a written report immediately.
- Get resources for the family and yourself from your local Resource and Referral Agency, C.P.S. or Family Resource Center.

FREE WORKSHOPS ON THIS TOPIC ARE PROVIDED AT:

Solano Family & Children's Services

421 Executive Court North

Fairfield, CA 94534

707-863-3950

For additional questions on Child Abuse please call Solano Family & Children's Services at the number listed above.