



FY26

**Mandated Reporter
Of Child Abuse & Neglect
Duty to Report Training**



**In order to protect vulnerable populations,
mandatory reporting of abuse is essential.**



Mandated reporting, which is based on our moral duty to safeguard those who are in danger, requires specific people, usually trusted professionals, to notify the appropriate authorities or any suspicions or known abuse.



With a focus on our shared duty to put the welfare of those in need first, this legal requirement attempts to guarantee the timely intervention and protection of people who may be experiencing abuse.



We will examine the foundational concepts and ethical concerns related to required reporting, while also acknowledging its critical function in creating a society that is safer and more compassionate.



Thank you for your commitment to creating a safe programming environment for the vulnerable population you serve.



This session describes the impact and risk of abuse and may be difficult for some to process.

Self-care Tips:

Mentally and emotionally prepare before beginning the course.

Take a break and revisit the course later if the information becomes difficult.

Reach out to your RAPM and the NTC to discuss alternative learning solutions.



Learning Objectives

Recognize the importance of reporting abuse and the responsibilities of mandated reporters

Identify the four common types of abuse and their indicators

Practice the five techniques for responding to disclosure of abuse

Respond to and report suspected or known child abuse or neglect.



Why is Reporting Critical?



Prevention

You could prevent further harm. A single incident of abuse or neglect can profoundly harm a child. Abused children are at increased risk of:





Protection

You may save other children from abuse. Offenders often abuse more than one victim. Some offenders





Community

Reporting incidents of suspected or known abuse creates a safer community for all families.





Litigation

You may avoid civil litigation and criminal charges. If you are legally required to report suspected abuse and you don't, you may lose your job, be fined, or possible charged with a crime. The organization may also face costly damage and litigation.





Moral & Legal Responsibility

Fulfilling our responsibility:

- ✓ Keeps children safe
- ✓ Prevents more victims
- ✓ Protects the organization where we work
- ✓ Increases safety in our communities





Why Don't People Report?



Sometimes individuals see something but don't respond.

What do you think is the most common reason why this happens?

The next few slides look at the most common reasons.



Uncertainty

In all likelihood, child abuse and neglect is not witnessed in real-time. But, signs or evidence of abuse or neglect can be apparent.





Fear

Concerns that a colleague will discover you spoke up and retaliate. Or, you are worried that everyone will be upset with you for making a report.





Wrongly Accusing

Reporting suspected abuse does not mean that you are accusing someone of being an offender. You are looking out for the safety and well-being of a youth.

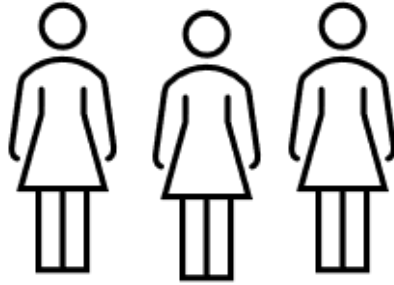




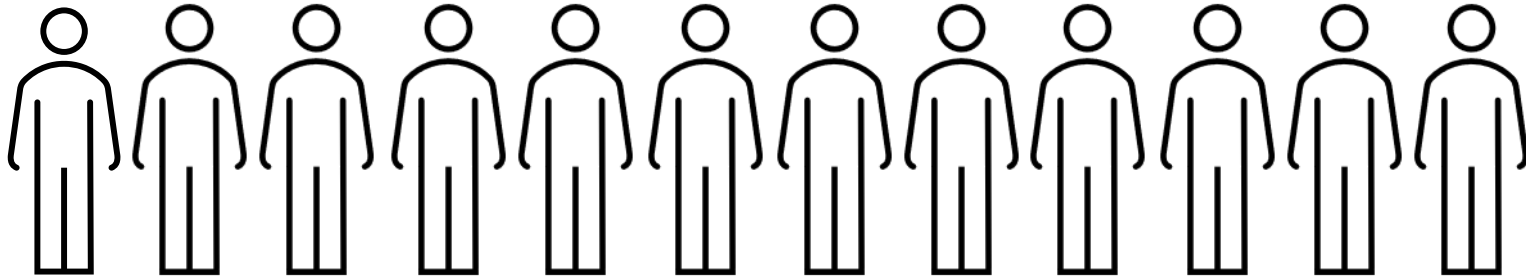
If you have second thoughts about reporting suspected or known abuse, remember it is critical and may prevent harm to a child, you should make the report to the proper authorities within your state/territory.



Reporting is Critical



1 in 4 females and **1 in 13** males will be sexually abused by the time they are 18 years of age.





We all have a moral responsibility to report abuse, but as someone who cares for or provides services to youth, you may have a legal responsibility to report suspected and known abuse.



**If the child is in immediate harm,
remove them from the situation.**

**Report to your supervisor and
ensure authorities are notified.**



Scenario:

Alexis has shown up to your program for the 2nd day with a new bruise. You have noticed they are displaying some aggressive behavior during free time. In addition, you have sensed tension between them and their mom at pick-up time.

Is this something you would be inclined to report to authorities?

Yes or No



Scenario Outcome:

YES!

Good! Remember, it is rare to actually witness abuse, and much more likely that you will see indicators of abuse.

Offenders need privacy to carry out abuse. It is far more likely that you will see indicators of abuse such as bruises and behavioral cues. It is better to be wrong and err on the side of safety than to fail to report suspected abuse.



Are you a Mandated Reporter?

A mandated reporter is required by law to report suspected child abuse or neglect. Are you a mandated reporter?

Yes or No

Type your answer into the Chat box and hit Enter.



Completing Your State/Territory Requirements

Included in the email attachments for this training session and linked below is your state or territories specified training.

<https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/d328228b-2431-48f6-863d-2362bbe3e24/downloads/9269545b-ca72-4799-b600-a01818bb87eb/ARNG%20CYS-Mandatory%20Reporter%20Training%20by%20State-.pdf?ver=1761318230311>

Certificate uploaded via this link:

<https://testmoz.com/q/MandatedReporter-Certificate>

MUST complete within in the next 5 business days

State/Territory	Website	Local Department Providing	Certifies Who?	Additional Resources	Cost
AL	https://aldhr.remote-learner.net/login/index.php	Alabama Dept. of HR	Pursuant to Section 26-14-3 of the Code of Alabama, mental health professionals, among others, are required to report suspected child abuse and neglect to the proper authorities.		\$0.00
AK	https://education.alaska.gov/elearning/chidabuse	Alaska Dept of Education & Early Development	This course is available to assist districts in complying with Alaskan statutes addressing educators' roles and responsibilities as mandated reporters of child abuse and neglect. Participants will learn about Alaska child abuse & neglect laws and the impact abuse and neglect has on Alaska's children.		\$0.00
AZ	https://dcs.az.gov/report-child-abuse/mandated-reporter-overview-training	Arizona Department of Child Safety		https://dcs.az.gov/sites/default/files/documents/files/StatewideMandatedReporterTrainingEducation-PW-11-23-2022.pdf	\$0.00
AR	https://ar.mandatedreporter.org/UserAuth/Login/LoginPage.action?sessionId=E24A880DAA1B6826C3A0B6101A4FE691	Arkansa Commission on Child Abuse, Rape and Domestic Violence			\$0.00
CA	https://mandatedreportertraining.com/california/	California Dept. of Social Services	School Personnel	https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/ss/ap/	Maybe \$8.99/certificate
CO	https://coloradocws.com/public-trainings/mandated-reporter-training/	Colorado Office of School Safety, Dept of Public Safety	Mandatory Reporting with emphasis on sexual assault for school staff or youth-serving organizations	https://co4kids.org	\$0.00
CT	https://www.train.org/connecticut/course/11296931/details	State of Connecticut Children & Families	School Staff		\$0.00
DC	https://dc.mandatedreporter.org/login	District of Columbia Children and Family Services Agency	The purpose of this online training is to educate a wide audience of Washington DC professionals mandated to report child abuse and neglect.	http://cfsa.dc.gov	\$0.00
DE	https://stateofdelaware.ccsd.com/LMS/catalog/Welcome.aspx?tab_page_id=578&tab_id=20000766	Office of The Child Advocate Delaware	These programs are designed for educators, medical professionals, law enforcement agencies, the Department of Justice, and general professionals.	https://courts.delaware.gov/childadvocate/training/MandatedReporterAdditionalTraining.aspx	\$0.00
FL	https://www.myfamilies.com/sites/default/files/PI/FlProMandatedReporter/story.html	FL Dept. of Children and Families	Teachers or other school officials or personnel Social workers, daycare center workers, or other professional child care, foster care, residential, or institutional workers	https://www.myfamilies.com/about/dcf-training	\$0.00
GA	https://www.prosolutionstraining.com/store/product/index.cfm?ProductVersion_id=2228&language_id=1	This course has been reviewed and approved by the Georgia Department of Human Services, Division of Family and Children Services and Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning.	School teachers; (I) School administrators; (J) School counselors, visiting teachers, school social workers, or school psychologists certified pursuant to Chapter 2 of Title 20; (K) Child welfare agency personnel, as such agency is defined in Code Section 49-5-12; (L) Child-counseling personnel; (M) Child service organization personnel;	https://oca.georgia.gov/training/mandated-reporting	\$0.00
GU	https://mandatedreportertraining.com/general/				\$8.99/certificate
HI	https://mandatedreportertraining.com/general/			https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2F7KB86js0 Checklist-fillable-052523.pdf1_.pdf	\$8.99/certificate
ID	https://mandatedreportertraining.com/general/				\$8.99/certificate
IL	https://mandatedreporter.dcsf.illinois.gov/en/index-man	IL Dept of Children and Family Services			
IN	https://www.in.gov/dcs/ReportingAbuse-and-Neglect/content/#/	IN Dept of Child Services	ALL	https://fags.in.gov/hc/en-us/articles/115005223008-What-information-do-I-have-to-provide-if-I-report-child-abuse-or-neglect	\$0.00



Safeguards for Mandated Reporters



There are a number of safeguards that help protect mandated reporters and the integrity of the reporting process.



Liability

Mandated reporters are typically protected from civil or criminal penalties for filing reports. Generally, the only time this would not be the case is if the person making the report knows:

- It is false
- The report is made with reckless disregard for the truth or falsity of the alleged incident



Confidentiality

Generally, your identity and the content of your report are confidential and may be disclosed by:

- Law enforcement officials only to specified persons
- Agencies such as child protection workers of law enforcement officers
- Attorneys or investigators may also have access to the names of mandated reporters

However, the mandated reporter's name typically cannot be disclosed to the family or anyone not directly involved in the investigation.



Documentation

You should keep notes about:

- What you know or suspect about the alleged abuse
- How you know it
- Did someone else tell you?
- Did you see or hear something?
- Did a child tell you directly?
- The exact words the child or informant told you

When you file a report, always:

- Record the name of the person you spoke with
- The date and time
- Ask for a case number

Similarly, when you report your concerns to your supervisor:

- Record what you disclosed as precisely as you can
- Date and time



Anonymity

If you are not a mandated reporter:

- You may make your report anonymously
- In some instances, the courts may order:
 - The disclosure of your identity when there is a compelling reason to do so
 - If it discovers that you have knowingly made a false report





Joint Knowledge

When two or more mandated reporters both have knowledge of suspected child abuse or neglect:

- Typically a single report may be made by a single individual on behalf of all
- Some states still require you to report even if you know that someone else has made a report
- Check your state statute to know for sure



Types of Indicators of Abuse



What is Child Abuse?

In the United States, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) defines child maltreatment (abuse) as any act or series of acts of commission or omission by a parent or other caregiver that results in harm, potential for harm, or threat of harm to a child.





Types of Conduct That Must Be Reported

These forms of abuse can occur in a child's home or in organizations, schools, or communities where the child interacts:

- **Physical**-often defined as non-accidental physical injury inflicted by another person with the intent of hurting the child.
 - Ex: punching, slapping, burning, subjecting to extreme cold or heat, kicking, tripping, and hair pulling
- **Psychological or Emotional**-not physical or sexual. While there is no uniformly accepted definition, most researchers include frequent verbal humiliation, constant criticism, intimidation, threatening physical harm, arbitrary and unpredictable ways of interacting, and rejecting, degrading or minimizing the importance of anything the child says or does.



Types of Conduct That Must Be Reported (continued)

These forms of abuse can occur in a child's home or in organizations, schools, or communities where the child interacts:

- **Sexual**-typically defined as when an adult uses a child for sexual stimulation or gratification.
 - Ex: fondling, vaginal, anal, or oral intercourse, indecent exposure, masturbation in front of the child, using a child to produce pornography, or forcing the child to engage in prostitution.
- **Neglect**-typically defined as the negligent treatment, lack of treatment, or the maltreatment of a child by a person for the child's welfare. There are two levels of neglect that must be reported: General and Severe



Indicators of Abuse

Indicators of child abuse can manifest in a variety of ways.





Indicators of Physical Abuse

- Small bruises
- Injuries to the back, buttocks, ears, face, neck and genitalia
- Unexplained injuries
- Bruises or burns with distinctive patterns
- Broken bones
- Lacerations, or any injury where there is a delay in seeking appropriate medical care

Other Indicators:

- Anxiety/Depression
- Self-mutilation
- Suicidal gestures/attempts
- Low self-esteem
- Social maladjustment
- Delinquent behavior
- Academic/behavioral problems in school/home
- Hostility
- Verbal and physical aggression
- Poor anger control
- Substance abuse
- Wariness towards adults



Indicators of Sexual Abuse

Physical Indicators:

- Complaints of painful urination/defecation
- Difficulty sitting or walking
- The presence of sexually transmitted infection

Behavioral Indicators:

- Sexualized behavior or knowledge beyond developmental expectations
- Fearful or withdrawn behavior
- Changes in eating, sleeping or toileting
- Behavioral problems

Psychological Indicators:

- Depression
- Anxiety
- Post traumatic stress disorder



Indicators of Psychological or Emotional Abuse

- Depression
- Low self-concept
- Poor social skills
- Increased risk of early sexual activity
- Insecurity
- Acts of aggression or destruction
- Abuse substances
- Run away form home



Indicators of Neglect

Physical Indicators:

- Failure to thrive or malnourishment
- Inappropriate dress for weather
- Dirty clothes
- Poor hygiene
- Unattended medical or dental conditions
- Developmental delays

Behavioral Indicators:

- Clingy or indiscriminate attachment
- Socially withdrawn
- Internalized emotional symptoms such as
 - Anxiety
 - Depression



Keep in mind;

- Not all children will exhibit the same signs of abuse. Any significant change in a child's behavior may be an indication that something is wrong.
- Just because a child exhibits these or other changes in behavior does not necessarily mean they are being abused.
- Ask if everything is okay and report your observations and concerns to all necessary authorities.



Scenario:

George suddenly appears to be socially withdrawn from their peers. On top of that, they seem anxious and shows signs of low self-esteem. They put their head down whenever you approach them. They did not act this way last time you saw them.

Are these indicators of abuse?

Yes or No



Scenario Outcome:

YES!

Being socially withdrawn, anxious, having low self-esteem, and avoiding interactions with adults can be indicators of physical, psychological or emotional abuse, or neglect.

Signs like these may not be obvious and can easily be overlooked. But these can be indicators of physical, psychological or emotional abuse or neglect.



Reporting Abuse



Stacie has come to you and tells you that a teacher is making her feel uncomfortable, by having her stay after class and so some “gross things”.

What would you do in this situation?





Stay Calm

The calmer you are the easier it will be for the youth to tell you what has happened. Try to keep your voice tone steady and soft.





Listen

Carefully to what the youth tells you. They may be frightened and may not give you any details. It is not your responsibility to investigate or push for detailed information; it's important to leave that to a professional.





Comfort

Communicate compassion for the youth sharing with you.





Don't Criticize

Although this is a natural response, chances are this youth knows the abuser well and maybe even cares a great deal about the person. Criticizing or threatening the person may make the youth confused, scared, or sorry for telling.





Report

- Follow the ARNG CYS reporting policy by submitting an Incident Report to your RAPM and SFPD within 24 hours
- Contact local authorities within statute provided timeframe, and ensure your RAPM and SFPD have been informed of that reporting
- Complete a written report





Reporting Suspected Abuse

WHEN TO REPORT

Reports should be made immediately after observing/forming a reasonable suspicion of abuse/neglect, or as soon as practically possible

WHO TO CONTACT

You will want to follow the ARNG CYs internal reporting policies by completing and submitting an Incident Report to your RAPM and SFPD within 24 hours.

What information to provide?

WHAT TO REPORT

You will want to provide as much information as you possibly can so your report can be properly and thoroughly investigated.

Provide the following:

- Names and addresses of the child and their parents or responsible caregivers
 - Child's age and gender
- Nature and extent of the abuse or neglect
- Name of the person suspected or know to have cause harm
- Approximate date and time of incident



Anyone can make a report of suspected child abuse or neglect.



You are not required to actually witness abuse or neglect before making a report. You just have to suspect that abuse or neglect may have occurred.



Conclusion



During this session you learned:

Why reporting suspected abuse and neglect is critical

What your legal responsibilities are to report suspected abuse and neglect

How to report suspected abuse and neglect

How to respond if a child discloses abuse or neglect to you



Thank you for your commitment to creating a safe programming environment for the vulnerable population you serve.



Knowledge Assessment

Completion of this online module will be documented by way of a knowledge assessment.

To access the reflective assessment, please click on the link below:

<https://testmoz.com/q/MandatoryReporter>

Upon completion of the knowledge assessment, the National Training Coordinator (NTC) will receive an email with your response included – this will serve as documentation that you successfully completed this module.

Congratulations!



You have completed the annually-required ARNG CYS Mandated Reporter training.

Please proceed to your Local State/Territory Training to FULLY satisfy this requirement.

Thank You!