

Child Abuse & Neglect, Part 3: Virginia Mandated Reporting RESOURCES & QUICK REFERENCE

Family support professionals have frequent interactions with families and children in their homes. This may put you in situations where you have concerns about possible child abuse or neglect. As a mandated reporter, you are required to report all cases of suspected abuse or neglect to Child Protective Services (CPS).

PHYSICAL ABUSE

Any act which, regardless of intent, results in a non-accidental physical injury.

Indicators include:

- Bruises
- Lacerations
- Fractures
- Internal injuries
- Burn marks

PHYSICAL NEGLECT

Failure to provide food, clothing, shelter or care needed for the child's health

- Consistent hunger
- Poor hygiene
- Inappropriate dress
- Lack of supervision
- Untended physical/medical needs
- Abandonment

SEXUAL ABUSE

Acts of sexual assault and sexual exploitation of minors

- Detailed and age-inappropriate understanding of sexual behavior
- Sudden drop in school performance
- Aggressive sexual acting out behavior in young children

EMOTIONAL MALTREATMENT

Caretaker acts or omissions resulting in harm to a child's psychological or emotional health or development

- Speech disorders
- Frequent stomachaches or headaches
- Lag in physical development
- Learning problems
- Withdrawn
- Depression, anxiety, cutting
- Non-organic failure to thrive
- And more

Resources

[Recognizing, Reporting and Preventing Child Abuse & Neglect in Virginia \(English\)](#)

[Recognizing, Reporting and Preventing Child Abuse & Neglect in Virginia \(Spanish\)](#)

[Virginia Child Protection Newsletter \(VCPN\)](#)

[VCPN past issues](#)

[Child Protective Services in Virginia Overview](#)

[Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline: 800-552-7096](#)

*You can make a difference
in a child's life!*