

COMMUNITY RESOURCES FOR RESPONDING TO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

ARKANSAS

CALL TO REPORT ABUSE

Contact the Arkansas Dept. of Children & Family Service at **501-682-8770** or any Law Enforcement Agency at 911. You are not required to provide proof. Anyone who makes a good faith report based on reasonable grounds is immune from prosecution. If the abuse occurred within the past 72 hours, a medical evaluation by a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner is available by going to the Emergency Department at Your County Medical Center or by going to the nearest child advocacy center.

HELPLINES

Arkansas Child Abuse Hotline(24 hour)	1-800-482-5964
United Way Crisis Helpline (24 hour)	888-421-1266 211 (after hours)
Darkness to Light Helpline	1-866- FOR-LIGHT (1-866-367-5444)
Childhelp: USA National Child Abuse Hotline	1-800-4-A- CHILD (1-800-422-4453)

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Legal Help

AR State Bar	501-375-4606
CASA Arkansas 20 JD	501-328-3347

Victim Advocacy

Hamilton House Child & Family Safety Center	479-783-1002
Arkansas Sheriff's Youth Ranches	870-793-6841
The Center for Healing and Hope	574-534-4744

RESOURCES FOR HEALING

Treatment Providers

AR Department of Mental Health	501-686-9164
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Support groups for survivors and for parents and families of children who have been abused

Saline County Safe Heaven	501-315-7233
Safe Place	501-590-7266

WEBSITES FOR MORE INFORMATION ON CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE AND/OR TRAUMA

www.darkness2light.org	1-843-965-5444
www.trauma-pages.com	
www.stopitnow.com	1-888-PREVENT (1-888-773-8368)

THERE ARE SEVERAL CHILD ADVOCACY CENTERS IN THE STATE OF ARKANSAS.

Feel free to call the center with any questions about where to find resources related to child sexual abuse. Contact the nearest CAC to set up an interview if abuse is reported:

Children's Advocacy Centers of Arkansas

Visit

http://cacarkansas.org/find_a_location.php to find the CAC near you

Children's Safety Center

614 E. Emma, Suite 200
Springdale, AR 72764
479-872-6183

MANDATED REPORTING

ARKANSAS

ARKANSAS STATE REPORTING LAWS

https://www.childwelfare.gov/systemwide/laws_policies/statutes/manda.cfm

PROFESSIONALS REQUIRED TO REPORT

Ann. Code § 12-18-402

The following individuals are mandated reporters:

- Child care, daycare, or foster care workers
- Domestic abuse advocates and domestic violence shelter employees or volunteers
- Employees of the Department of Human Services or employees working under contract for the Division of Youth Services of the Department of Human Services; coroners
- Foster parents
- Judges, law enforcement officials, peace officers, and prosecuting attorneys
- Licensed nurses, physicians, mental health professionals or paraprofessionals, surgeons, resident interns, osteopaths, and medical personnel who may be engaged in the admission, examination, care, or treatment of persons
- Public or private school counselors; school officials, including without limitation institutions of higher education; and teachers; dentists and dental hygienists; Employees or volunteers at reproductive health-care facilities
- Social workers and juvenile intake or probation officers
- Court-appointed special advocate program staff members or volunteers or attorneys ad litem; Victim/witness coordinators or victim assistance professionals or volunteers
- Clergy members, which include ministers, priests, rabbis, accredited Christian Science practitioners, or other similar functionary of a religious organization
- Employees of a child advocacy center or a child safety center; sexual abuse advocates or volunteers who work with victims of sexual abuse as employees of a community-based victim service or mental health agency such as Safe Places, United Family Services, or Centers for Youth and Families; rape crisis advocates or volunteers; child abuse advocates or volunteers who work with child victims of abuse or maltreatment as employees of a community based victim service or a mental health agency
- Employees of the Crimes Against Children Division of the Department of Arkansas State Police
- An individual not otherwise identified in this subsection who is engaged in performing his or her employment duties with a nonprofit charitable organization other than a nonprofit hospital

INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITY TO REPORT

Ann. Code §§ 12-18-402(c); 12-18-204

An employer or supervisor of an employee identified as a mandated reporter shall not prohibit an employee or a volunteer from directly reporting child maltreatment to the Child Abuse Hotline.

An employer or supervisor of an employee identified as a mandated reporter shall not require an employee or a volunteer to obtain permission or notify any person, including an employee or a supervisor, before reporting child maltreatment to the Child Abuse Hotline. Nothing in the reporting laws shall prohibit any person or institution from requiring an employee or volunteer who is a mandatory reporter to inform a representative of that person or institution that the reporter has made a report to the Child Abuse Hotline.

HOW TO REPORT IN ARKANSAS

If you need to report child maltreatment, please call the Crimes Against Children Hotline at **1-800-482-5964**

For mandated reporter training:
<https://ar.mandatedreporter.org>

MANDATED REPORTING

STANDARDS FOR MAKING A REPORT

Ann. Code § 12-18-402

An individual listed as a mandatory reporter shall immediately notify the Child Abuse Hotline if he or she:

- Has reasonable cause to suspect that a child has been subjected to maltreatment or died as a result of maltreatment
- Observes a child being subjected to conditions or circumstances that would reasonably result in maltreatment

PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATIONS

Ann. Code §§ 12-18-402(c); 12-18-803

A privilege or contract shall not prevent a person from reporting child maltreatment when he or she is a mandated reporter and required to report under this section. No privilege, except that between a lawyer and a client and between a minister, including a Christian Science practitioner, and a person confessing to, or being counseled by a minister, shall prevent anyone from testifying concerning child maltreatment. When a physician, psychologist, psychiatrist, counselor, or therapist conducts interviews with or provides therapy to a subject of a report of suspected child maltreatment for purposes related to child maltreatment, the physician, psychologist, psychiatrist, licensed counselor, or therapist is deemed to be performing services on behalf of the child. An adult subject of a report of suspected child maltreatment cannot invoke privilege on the child's behalf.

INCLUSION OF REPORTER'S NAME IN REPORT

Ann. Code § 12-18-302

A mandated reporter may report child maltreatment or suspected child maltreatment by telephone call, facsimile transmission, or online reporting. Facsimile transmission and online reporting may be used in nonemergency situations by an identified mandated reporter who provides the following contact information:

- Name and phone number
- In the case of online reporting, his or her email address

A mandated reporter who wishes to remain anonymous shall make a report through the toll-free Child Abuse Hotline telephone system.

DISCLOSURE OF REPORTERS IDENTITY

The identity of the reporter shall not be disclosed unless a court determines that the reporter knowingly made a false report.