

COMMUNITY RESOURCES FOR RESPONDING TO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

LOUISIANA

CALL TO REPORT ABUSE

Contact the Louisiana Dept. of Child Protection at **1-855-452-5437** 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

Child Abuse or Neglect (24 hour)	1-855-4LA-KIDS (1-855-452-5437)
Sexual Assault Crisis Line (24 hour)	318-445-2022
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

LA State Bar 504-566-1600

Victim Advocacy

Child Advocacy Services(CAS) 985-902-9583
The Haven 958-872-0757
Hearts of Hope 337-269-1557

RESOURCES FOR HEALING

Treatment Providers

LA Department of Mental Health 225-342-9500

Support groups for survivors and for parents and families of children who have been abused

Family Counseling Agency 318-448-0284
Louisiana Foundation Against Sexual Assault 888-995-7273
Metropolitan Center for Women & Children 504-837-5400

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 LOUISIANA.

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:

Rapides Children's Advocacy Center

1506 Albert Street
Alexandria, LA 71301
318-448-4006

Baton Rouge Children's Advocacy Center

626 East Blvd.
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
225-343-1984

MANDATED REPORTING

LOUISIANA

LOUISIANA STATE REPORTING LAWS

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

PROFESSIONALS REQUIRED TO REPORT

Children's Code Art. 603(15)

Mandatory reporters include any of the following individuals:

- Health practitioners, including physicians, surgeons, physical therapists, dentists, residents, interns, hospital staff, podiatrists, chiropractors, nurses, nursing aides, dental hygienists, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, optometrists, medical examiners, or coroners
- Mental health/social service practitioners, including psychiatrists, psychologists, marriage or family counselors, social workers, members of the clergy, or aides
- Members of the clergy, including priests, rabbis, duly ordained clerical deacons or ministers, Christian Science practitioners, or other similarly situated functionaries of a religious organization
- Teaching or child care providers, including public or private teachers, teacher's aides, instructional aides, school principals, school staff members, bus drivers, coaches, professors, technical or vocational instructors, technical or vocational school staff members, college or university administrators, college or university staff members, social workers, probation officers, foster home parents, group home or other child care institutional staff members, personnel of residential home facilities, daycare providers, or any individual who provides such services to a child in a voluntary or professional capacity ; school coaches, including, but not limited to, public technical or vocational school, community college, college, or university coaches and coaches of intramural or interscholastic athletics
- Police officers or law enforcement officials; court-appointed special advocates; mediators
- Commercial film and photographic print processors
- Parenting coordinators
- Organizational or youth activity providers, including administrators, employees, or volunteers of any day camp, summer camp, youth center, or youth recreation programs or any other organization that provides organized activities for children

REPORTING BY OTHER PERSONS

Children's Code Art. 609

Any other person who has cause to believe that a child's health is endangered as a result of abuse or neglect may report.

A clergy member is not required to report a confidential communication from a person to a member of the clergy who, in the course of the discipline or practice of that church, denomination, or organization, is authorized or accustomed to hearing confidential communications and, under the discipline or tenets of the church, denomination, or organization, has a duty to keep such communications confidential. Notwithstanding any claim of privileged communication, any mandatory reporter who has cause to believe that a child's physical or mental health or welfare is endangered as a result of abuse or neglect, or that abuse or neglect was a contributing factor in a child's death, shall report.

(continued on following page)

HOW TO REPORT IN LOUISIANA

Call 1-855-4LA-KIDS
(1-855-452-5437).

To get the form for mandated reporters go to:

<http://www.dss.state.la.us/assets/docs/searchable/OCS/CPI-2.pdf>

For mandated reporter training:

www.dcf.la.gov/MandatedReporterTraining.

MANDATED REPORTING

STANDARDS FOR MAKING A REPORT

Children's Code Art. 609; 610

A report is required when:

- A reporter has cause to believe that a child's physical or mental health or welfare is endangered as a result of abuse or neglect.
- A commercial film or photographic print processor has knowledge of or observes any film, photograph, videotape, negative, or slide depicting a child, whom he or she knows or should know is under age 17, that constitutes child pornography.
- A physician has cause to believe that a newborn was exposed in utero to an unlawfully used controlled dangerous substance, as determined by a toxicology test upon the newborn, without the consent of the newborn's parents or guardian. Positive test results shall not be admissible in a criminal prosecution.
- A physician observes symptoms of withdrawal in a newborn or other observable and harmful effects in his or her physical appearance or functioning that the physician has cause to believe are due to the chronic or severe use of alcohol by the mother during pregnancy.

PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATIONS

Children's Code Art. 603; 609

A clergy member is not required to report a confidential communication from a person to a member of the clergy who, in the course of the discipline or practice of that church, denomination, or organization, is authorized or accustomed to hearing confidential communications and, under the discipline or tenets of the church, denomination, or organization, has a duty to keep such communications confidential. Notwithstanding any claim of privileged communication, any mandatory reporter who has cause to believe that a child's physical or mental health or welfare is endangered as a result of abuse or neglect, or that abuse or neglect was a contributing factor in a child's death, shall report.

INCLUSION OF REPORTER'S NAME IN REPORT

Children's Code Art. 610

The report must include the name and address of the reporter.

DISCLOSURE OF REPORTER IDENTITY

Rev. Stat. § 46:56(F)(8)(b)

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