

# COMMUNITY RESOURCES FOR RESPONDING TO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

## MARYLAND

### CALL TO REPORT ABUSE

Contact the Maryland Dept. of Human Resources at **800-332-6347** 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

Sexual Assault Crisis Center Hotline (24 hour)	410-222-7273
TurnAround Crisis Hotline (24 hour)	443-279-0379
Child Protective Hotlines by County	<a href="http://www.dhr.state.md.us/blog/?page_id=4631">http://www.dhr.state.md.us/blog/?page_id=4631</a>
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

MD State Bar	410-685-7878
CASA of Baltimore	410-244-1465

#### Victim Advocacy

TurnAround, INC	410-377-8111
Family & Children's Services of Central Maryland	410-366-1980

### RESOURCES FOR HEALING

#### Treatment Providers

MD Department of Mental Health	410-767-6500
Family & Children's Services Anne Arundel Abuse Counseling Center	410-571-8341

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

YWCA Annapolis & Anne Arundel County	410-626-7800
Kennedy Krieger Institute	443-923-5900

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

<a href="http://www.darkness2light.org">www.darkness2light.org</a>	1-843-965-5444
<a href="http://www.trauma-pages.com">www.trauma-pages.com</a>	
<a href="http://www.stopitnow.com">www.stopitnow.com</a>	1-888-PREVENT (1-888-773-8368)

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

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:

**Maryland Child Advocacy Center Networks**  
410-877-5376

**Safe Place CAC**  
24 N. Walnut Street, Suite 206  
Hagerstown, MD 21740  
240-420-4308

# MANDATED REPORTING

## MARYLAND

### MARYLAND STATE REPORTING LAWS

[https://www.childwelfare.gov/systemwide/laws\\_policies/statutes/manda.cfm](https://www.childwelfare.gov/systemwide/laws_policies/statutes/manda.cfm)

### PROFESSIONALS REQUIRED TO REPORT

*Fam. Law § 5-704*

Persons required to report include:

- Health practitioners
- Educators or human service workers
- Police officers

### REPORTING BY OTHER PERSONS

*Fam. Law § 5-705*

Any other person who has reason to believe that a child has been subjected to abuse or neglect must report. An individual may notify the local department or the appropriate law enforcement agency if the individual has reason to believe that a parent, guardian, or caregiver of a child allows the child to reside with or be in the regular presence of an individual, other than the child's parent or guardian, who is registered as a child sex offender and, based on additional information, poses a substantial risk of sexual abuse to the child.

### INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITY TO REPORT

*Fam. Law § 5-704*

A mandated reporter who is acting as a staff member of a hospital, public health agency, child care institution, juvenile detention center, school, or similar institution immediately shall notify and give all information required by this section to the head of the institution or the designee of the head.

### STANDARDS FOR MAKING A REPORT

*Fam. Law §§ 5-704; 5-705*

A mandatory reporter is required to report when, acting in a professional capacity, the person has reason to believe that a child has been subjected to abuse or neglect. Other persons shall report when they have reason to believe that a child has been subjected to abuse or neglect.

### PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATIONS

*Fam. Law §§ 5-704; 5-705*

Mandatory reporters are required to report regardless of any other provision of law, including any law on privileged communications. Only attorney-client and clergy-penitent privileges are permitted.

### INCLUSION OF REPORTER'S NAME IN REPORT

The reporter is not specifically required by statute to provide his or her name in the report

### HOW TO REPORT IN MARYLAND

You should report suspected abuse or neglect to the local department of social services or to a local law enforcement agency. You are required to report both orally and in writing any suspected child abuse or neglect. Oral reports should be made immediately and written reports must be made within 48 hours of contact which disclose the suspected abuse or neglect. A report must include:

- The name and home address of the child and the parent or other individual responsible for the care of the child;
- The present location of the child;
- The age of the child;
- Names and ages of other children in the home;
- The nature and extent of injuries or sexual abuse or neglect of the child
- Any information relayed by the individual making the report of previous possible physical or sexual abuse or neglect.
- Information available to the individual reporting that might aid in establishing the cause of the injury or neglect;
- The identity of the individual or individuals responsible for abuse or neglect