

COMMUNITY RESOURCES FOR RESPONDING TO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

MAINE

CALL TO REPORT ABUSE

Contact the Maine Dept. of Children & Family Service at **800-452-1999** 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 & Family Services (24 hour)	1-800-452-1999
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

ME State Bar 207-622-7523

Victim Advocacy

Child Abuse Action Network 207-624-7942
Sexual Assault Prevention & Response Services 207-784-5274

RESOURCES FOR HEALING

Treatment Providers

ME. Department of Mental Health 207-287-2595

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

Sexual Assault Crisis & Support Center 207-377-1010
Sexual Assault Support Services of Midcoast Maine 207-338-4622

Visit <http://sassmm.org/links/> for list of local law enforcement, hospitals, and other sexual assault centers.

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 MAINE.

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:

**Androscoggin Children's
Advocacy Center**
182 Webster St.
Lewiston, ME 04240
207-784-0436

**Sexual Assault Crisis &
Support Center**
149 Main St., 4th Floor
Winthrop, ME 04364
207-377-1010

MANDATED REPORTING

MAINE

MAINE STATE REPORTING LAWS

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

PROFESSIONALS REQUIRED TO REPORT

Rev. Stat. Tit. 22, § 4011-A

Mandatory reporters include:

- The following persons, when acting in a professional capacity:
 - » Allopathic or osteopathic physicians, residents, interns, emergency medical services persons, medical examiners, physician's assistants, dentists, dental hygienists, dental assistants, chiropractors, podiatrists, or registered or licensed practical nurses
 - » Teachers, guidance counselors, school officials, youth camp administrators or counselors, or social workers
 - » Court-appointed special advocates or guardians ad litem
 - » Homemakers, home health aides, medical or social service workers, psychologists, child care personnel, or mental health professionals
 - » Law enforcement officials, State or municipal fire inspectors, or municipal code enforcement officials
 - » Commercial film and photographic print processors
 - » Clergy members
 - » Chairs of professional licensing boards that have jurisdiction over mandated reporters
 - » Humane agents employed by the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources
 - » Sexual assault counselors or family or domestic violence victim advocates
 - » School bus drivers or attendants
- Any person who has assumed full, intermittent, or occasional responsibility for the care or custody of the child, regardless of whether the person receives compensation
- Any person affiliated with a church or religious institution who serves in an administrative capacity or has otherwise assumed a position of trust or responsibility to the members of that church or religious institution, while acting in that capacity, regardless of whether the person receives compensation

INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITY TO REPORT

Rev. Stat. Tit. 22, § 4011-A

Whenever a person is required to report in a capacity as a member of the staff of a medical or public or private institution, agency, or facility, that person immediately shall notify either the person in charge of the institution, agency, or facility or a designated agent who then shall cause a report to be made. The staff also may make a report directly to the department.

If a person required to report notifies either the person in charge of the institution, agency, or facility, or the designated agent, the notifying person shall acknowledge in writing that the institution, agency, or facility has provided confirmation to the notifying person that another individual from the institution, agency, or facility has made a report to the department. The confirmation must include, at a minimum, the name of the individual making the report to the department, the date and time of the report, and a summary of the information conveyed. If the notifying person does not receive the confirmation from the institution, agency, or facility within 24 hours of the notification, the notifying person immediately shall make a report directly to the department.

(continued on following page)

HOW TO REPORT IN MAINE

Call Child Protective Intake at 800-452-1999.

To access the form for mandated reporters go to:

<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ocfs/cps/ReporterWorksheet.pdf>

For mandated reporter training:

<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ocfs/cps/>

MANDATED REPORTING

STANDARDS FOR MAKING A REPORT

Rev. Stat. Tit. 22, §§ 4011-A; 4011-B

A report is required when:

- The person knows or has reasonable cause to suspect that a child is or is likely to be abused or neglected or that a suspicious death has occurred.
- When a child who is under 6 months of age or otherwise non-ambulatory exhibits evidence of the following:
 - » Fracture of a bone
 - » Substantial bruising or multiple bruises
 - » Subdural hematoma
 - » Burns
 - » Poisoning
 - » Injury resulting in substantial bleeding, soft tissue swelling, or impairment of an organ
- A health-care provider involved in the delivery or care of an infant knows or has reasonable cause to suspect that the infant has been born affected by illegal substance abuse or is demonstrating withdrawal symptoms that require medical monitoring or care beyond standard newborn care when those symptoms have resulted from or have likely resulted from prenatal drug exposure, whether the prenatal exposure was to legal or illegal drugs, or has fetal alcohol spectrum disorders.

PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATIONS

Rev. Stat. Tit. 22, §§ 4011-A; 4015

A member of the clergy may claim privilege when information is received during a confidential communication. The husband-wife and physician- and psychotherapist-patient privileges cannot be invoked as a reason not to report.

INCLUSION OF REPORTER'S NAME IN REPORT

Rev. Stat. Tit. 22, § 4012

The report shall include the name, occupation, and contact information for the person making the report.

DISCLOSURE OF REPORTER IDENTITY

Rev. Stat. Tit. 22, § 4008

The department will protect the identity of reporters and other persons as appropriate when disclosing information in the records to a child named in a report, the child's parent, custodian, or caregiver, or a party to a child protection proceeding.