

COMMUNITY RESOURCES FOR RESPONDING TO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

MONTANA

CALL TO REPORT ABUSE

Contact the Montana Child & Family Services at **866-820-5437** 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

Report Child Abuse & Neglect Montana	866-826-KIDS (5437)
Haven 24-hour Crisis Line	406-586-4111
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

MT State Bar	406-442-7660
Haven-Legal Advocacy	406-582-2038
AWARE	406-563-8117

Victim Advocacy

Anaconda Family Resource Center	406-563-7972
Haven	406-586-4689

RESOURCES FOR HEALING

Treatment Providers

MT Dept. of Mental Health	406-444-3964
DOVES	406-883-3350

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

Safe Space	406-782-8511
The Friendship Center	406-442-6800

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 MONTANA.

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:

National Children's Alliance-Montana Chapter

Visit
<http://www.nationalchildrensalliance.org/index.php?s=58&state=Montana> to find the CAC nearest you
406-250-6721

Lewis & Clark County Children's Advocacy Center

616 Helena Ave, Ste 305
Helena, MT 59601
406-449-3120

MANDATED REPORTING

MONTANA

MONTANA STATE REPORTING LAWS

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

PROFESSIONALS REQUIRED TO REPORT

Ann. Code § 41-3-201

Professionals required to report include:

- Physicians, residents, interns, members of hospital staffs, nurses, osteopaths, chiropractors, podiatrists, medical examiners, coroners, dentists, optometrists, or any other health professionals
- Teachers, school officials, or school employees who work during regular school hours
- Operators or employees of any registered or licensed daycare or substitute care facility, or operators or employees of child care facilities
- Mental health professionals or social workers
- Religious healers
- Foster care, residential, or institutional workers
- Members of the clergy: An ordained minister, priest, or rabbi, a commissioned or licensed minister of a church or church denomination that ordains ministers if the person has the authority to perform substantially all the religious duties of the church or denomination, a member of a religious order who has taken a vow of poverty, a Christian Science practitioner
- Guardians ad litem or court-appointed advocates authorized to investigate a report
- Peace officers or other law enforcement officials

REPORTING BY OTHER PERSONS

Ann. Code § 41-3-201

Any other person who knows or has reasonable cause to suspect that a child is abused or neglected may report.

STANDARDS FOR MAKING A REPORT

Ann. Code § 41-3-201

A report is required when:

- A reporter knows or has reasonable cause to suspect, as a result of information received in his or her professional or official capacity, that a child is abused or neglected.
- A health-care professional involved in the delivery or care of an infant knows that the infant is affected by a dangerous drug.

PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATIONS

Ann. Code § 41-3-201

A person listed as a mandated reporter may not refuse to make a report as required in this section on the grounds of a physician-patient or similar privilege. A member of the clergy or a priest is not required to make a report under this section if the communication is required to be confidential by canon law, church doctrine, or established church practice.

INCLUSION OF REPORTER'S NAME IN REPORT

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

DISCLOSURE OF REPORTER IDENTITY

Ann. Code § 41-3-205

The identity of the reporter shall not be disclosed in any release of information to the subject of the report.

HOW TO REPORT IN MONTANA

Report exactly what the child tells you as soon as possible by calling the Montana Child Abuse and Neglect hotline 1-866-820-5437 and then call your local Police Department or Sheriff's Department to report what the child tells you.