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
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.

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.