COMMUNITY RESOURCES FOR RESPONDING TO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

NORTH DAKOTA

CALL TO REPORT ABUSE
Contact the North Dakota Department of Children and Family Services at 701-328-2316 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
To find the hotline to report child abuse in your county visit http://www.nd.gov/dhs/locations/countysocialserv/index.html

- Abused Adult Resource Center 24 Hour Crisis Line 1-866-341-7009
- 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
ND State Bar 701-255-1404

Victim Advocacy
Safe Alternatives for Abused Families 701-662-7378
Rape & Abuse Crisis Center 701-293-7273

RESOURCES FOR HEALING
Treatment Providers
ND Department of Mental Health 701-328-2310

Support groups for survivors and for parents and families of children who have been abused
Abused Adult Resource Center 701-222-8370
Safe Alternatives for Abused Families 701-662-7378

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)
NORTH DAKOTA

NORTH DAKOTA STATE REPORTING LAWS
https://www.childwelfare.gov/systemwide/laws_policies/statutes/manda.cfm

PROFESSIONALS REQUIRED TO REPORT
Cent. Code § 50-25.1-03
The following professionals are required to report:
• Physicians, nurses, dentists, dental hygienists, optometrists, medical examiners or coroners, or any other medical or mental health professionals
• Religious practitioners of the healing arts
• Schoolteachers, administrators, or school counselors
• Addiction counselors, social workers, child care workers, or foster parents
• Police or law enforcement officers, juvenile court personnel, probation officers, division of juvenile services employees
• Members of the clergy

REPORTING BY OTHER PERSONS
Cent. Code § 50-25.1-03
Any other person who has reasonable cause to suspect that a child is abused or neglected may report.

INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITY TO REPORT
Cent. Code §§ 50-25.1-04; 50-25.1-09.1
Reports involving known or suspected institutional child abuse or neglect must be made and received in the same manner as all other reports made under this chapter. An employer is prohibited from retaliating against an employee solely because the employee in good faith reported having reasonable cause to suspect that a child was abused or neglected, or died as a result of abuse or neglect, or because the employee is a child with respect to whom a report was made. There is a rebuttable presumption that any adverse action within 90 days of a report is retaliatory. For purposes of this subsection, an ‘adverse action’ is action taken by an employer against the person making the report or the child with respect to whom a report was made, including:
• Discharge, suspension, termination, or transfer from any facility, institution, school, agency, or other place of employment
• Discharge from or termination of employment
• Demotion or reduction in remuneration for services
• Restriction or prohibition of access to any facility, institution, school, agency, or other place of employment or persons affiliated with it

STANDARDS FOR MAKING A REPORT
Cent. Code § 50-25.1-03
A report is required when a reporter has knowledge of or reasonable cause to suspect that a child is abused or neglected if the knowledge or suspicion is derived from information received by that person in that person’s official or professional capacity. A person who has knowledge of or reasonable cause to suspect that a child is abused or neglected based on images of sexual conduct by a child discovered on a workplace computer shall report the circumstances to the department.

PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATIONS
Cent. Code §§ 50-25.1-03; 50-25.1-10
A member of the clergy is not required to report such circumstances if the knowledge or suspicion is derived from information received in the capacity of spiritual adviser. Any privilege of communication between husband and wife or between any professional person and the person’s patient or client, except between attorney and client, cannot be used as grounds for failing to report.

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
Cent. Code § 50-25.1-11
All reports are confidential and must be made available to a parent, the child’s guardian, and any person who is the subject of a report; provided, however, that the identity of persons reporting or supplying information is protected.