

COMMUNITY RESOURCES FOR RESPONDING TO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

SOUTH DAKOTA

CALL TO REPORT ABUSE

Contact the South Dakota Dept. of Children Protective Services at **605-773-3227** 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

To find the hotline to report child abuse in your county visit

<http://dss.sd.gov/cps/protective/reporting.asp>

24-Hour Crisis Line-The Wholeness Center	1-866-643-3379
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

SD State Bar 605-224-7554

Victim Advocacy

Children's Inn 605-338-0116
Safe Harbor 605-226-1212
South Dakota CASA Association 605-692-2277

RESOURCES FOR HEALING

Treatment Providers

SD Department of Mental Health 605-773-5991
Catholic Family Services 605-988-3775

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

The Compass Center 605-339-0116
Children's Inn 605-338-0116

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 SOUTH DAKOTA.

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:

**Child Advocacy Centers of
South Dakota**
Visit

<http://southdakota.nationalchildrensalliance.org/index.php?s=2764> to find the CAC near you

Child's Voice

1305 West 18th Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57117
605-333-2226

MANDATED REPORTING

SOUTH DAKOTA

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE REPORTING LAWS

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

PROFESSIONALS REQUIRED TO REPORT

Codified Laws § 26-8A-3

Mandatory reporters include:

- Physicians, dentists, osteopaths, chiropractors, optometrists, podiatrists, hospital interns or residents, nurses, or coroners
- Teachers, school counselors or officials, or licensed or registered child welfare providers
- Mental health professionals or counselors, psychologists, social workers, chemical dependency counselors, employees or volunteers of domestic abuse shelters, or religious healing practitioners
- Employees or volunteers of child advocacy organizations or child welfare service providers
- Parole or court services officers or law enforcement officers
- Any safety-sensitive position (as defined in § 23-3-64), including any law enforcement officer authorized to carry firearms and any custody staff employed by any agency responsible for the rehabilitation or treatment of any adjudicated adult or juvenile

INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITY TO REPORT

Codified Laws §§ 26-8A-6; 26-8A-7

Any person who has contact with a child through the performance of services as a member of a staff of a hospital or similar institution shall immediately notify the person in charge of the institution or his designee of suspected abuse or neglect. The person in charge shall report the information in accordance with the provisions of § 26-8A-8. Any person who has contact with a child through the performance of services in any public or private school, whether accredited or unaccredited, as a teacher, school nurse, school counselor, school official, or administrator, or any person providing services pursuant to § 13-27-3 shall notify the school principal or school superintendent or designee of suspected abuse or neglect. The school principal or superintendent shall report the information in accordance with the provisions of § 26-8A-8. Each school district shall have a written policy on reporting of child abuse and neglect.

STANDARDS FOR MAKING A REPORT

Codified Laws § 26-8A-3

A report is required when a reporter has reasonable cause to suspect that a child has been abused or neglected.

PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATIONS

Codified Laws § 26-8A-15

The following privileges may not be claimed as a reason for not reporting:

- Physician-patient
- Husband-wife
- School counselor-student
- Social worker-client

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

Codified Laws § 26-8A-11.1

The name of the reporter is not disclosed unless:

- The report is determined to be unsubstantiated.
- Within 30 days, the subject of the report requests disclosure of the reporter's identity.
- A hearing is held to determine whether the report was made with malice and without reasonable foundation and that release of the name will not endanger the life or safety of the reporter.

HOW TO REPORT IN SOUTH DAKOTA

If you suspect a child is being abused or neglected, or is at risk of abuse or neglect, you should make a report to your local Department of Social Services office.

To find a phone number for your local DSS office:
<http://dss.sd.gov/findyourlocaloffice/>