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COMMUNITY RESOURCES

FOR RESPONDING TO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

# CALL TO REPORT ABUSE

# Contact the Montana Dept. of Children Protective 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 866-820-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.D2L.org](http://www.D2L.org) 1-843-965-5444

[www.trauma-pages.com](http://www.trauma-pages.com)

[www.stopitnow.com](http://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

MONTANA

MANDATED REPORTING

MONTANA

MONTANA STATE REPORTING LAWS

<https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/systemwide/laws-policies/state/>

PROFESSIONALS REQUIRED TO REPORT

*Ann. Code §§ 41-3-201; 15-6-201(2)(b)*

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, as defined in § 15-6-201(2)(b)

• Guardians ad litem or court-appointed advocates authorized to investigate a report

• Peace officers or other law enforcement officials

The term 'clergy' means:

• 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

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.

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.

MANDATED REPORTING contd.

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.

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.