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COMMUNITY RESOURCES

FOR RESPONDING TO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

# CALL TO REPORT ABUSE

# Contact the West Virginia Dept. of Children Protective Services at 304-558-0628 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

West Virginia Child Violence Abuse Hotline (24 hour) 1-800-352-6513

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

WV State Bar 304-553-7220

### Victim Advocacy

YWCA Resolve Family Abuse Program 304-340-3549

Harrison County CASA 304-623-5749

# RESOURCES FOR HEALING

**Treatment Providers**

WV Department of Mental Health 304-356-4811

Family Connection Counseling 304-340-3676

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

Women’s Aid in Crisis 304-636-5564

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 WEST VIRGINIA.

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:

**West Virginia Child Advocacy Network**

601 Morris St. # 202

Charleston, WV 25301

304-414-4455

**Safe Haven CAC**

653 Winchester Ave

Martinsburg, WV 25401

304-596-2022

WEST VIRGINIA

MANDATED REPORTING

WEST VIRGINIA

WEST VIRGINIA STATE REPORTING LAWS

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

PROFESSIONALS REQUIRED TO REPORT

*Ann. Code § 49-6A-2*

The following professionals are required to report:

• Medical, dental, or mental health professionals

• Christian Science practitioners or religious healers

• Teachers or other school personnel

• Social service, child care, or foster care workers

• Emergency medical services personnel

• Peace officers, law enforcement officials, or humane officers

• Members of the clergy

• Circuit court judges, family court judges, employees of the Division of Juvenile Services, or magistrates

• Youth camp administrators, counselors, employees, coaches, or volunteers of entities that provide organized activities for children

• Commercial film or photographic print processors

REPORTING BY OTHER PERSONS

*Ann. Code § 49-6A-2*

Nothing in this article is intended to prevent individuals from reporting suspected abuse or neglect on their own behalf. In addition to those persons and officials specifically required to report situations involving suspected abuse or neglect of children, any other person may make a report if the person has reasonable cause to suspect that a child has been abused or neglected in a home or institution or observes the child being subjected to conditions or circumstances that would reasonably result in abuse or neglect.

INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITY TO REPORT

*Ann. Code § 49-6A-2*

Any person required to report who is a member of the staff or volunteer of a public or private institution, school, entity that provides organized activities for children, facility, or agency also shall immediately notify the person in charge of the institution, school, entity that provides organized activities for children, facility, or agency, or a designated agent thereof, who may supplement the report or cause an additional report to be made.

HOW TO REPORT IN WEST VIRGINIA

Reports can be made to the Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline (1-800-352-6513) 7 days a week, 24 hours a day.

You may also report alleged sexual abuse or sexual assault, or serious physical abuse to your local law enforcement agency by calling 911.

MANDATED REPORTING contd.

STANDARDS FOR MAKING A REPORT

*Ann. Code § 49-2-803*

Any mandatory reporter who has reasonable cause to suspect that a child is neglected or abused or observes the child being subjected to conditions that are likely to result in abuse or neglect shall report the circumstances or cause a report to be made to the Department of Health and Human Resources. In any case where the reporter believes that the child suffered serious physical or sexual abuse or sexual assault, the reporter shall also immediately report, or cause a report to be made, to the State Police and any law-enforcement agency having jurisdiction to investigate the complaint.

PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATIONS

*Ann. Code § 49-6A-7*

The privileged quality of communications between husband and wife and between any professional person and his or her patient or client, except that between attorney and client, is hereby abrogated in situations involving suspected or known child abuse or neglect.

INCLUSION OF REPORTER’S NAME IN REPORT

The reporter is not specifically required by statute to provide his or her

name in the report.