



How do you get more information?

Call the Idaho CareLine at 211 or 1-800-926-2588

CareLine will connect you with someone who can document your concerns.

Visit the Governor's Task Force on Children at Risk for additional copies of this brochure and a training DVD at

www.idcartf.org



Developed by the Governor's Task Force on Children at Risk

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CARE ENOUGH TO CALL

Report Child Abuse and Neglect

Children have the right to be safe and have their basic needs met.

Yet, thousands of Idaho children suffer from abuse or neglect each year.

Care enough to keep children safe. Call and report your concerns.



Idaho CareLine • IDHW

2-1-1
Get Connected. Get Answers.

Dial 2-1-1 or 1-800-926-2588

WHEN DO YOU CALL?

Idaho law requires you to call whenever you have reason to believe that a child under the age of 18 has been abused, neglected, or abandoned.

Idaho Code Sec. 16-1605

Physical Abuse means harming a child in a way that leaves physical marks or injuries.

Call When You See A Child With...

- Injuries such as bruises, welts, cuts, bite marks, or broken bones with no appropriate explanation.
- Burns or bruises that look like the object with which they may have been inflicted.
- Clothing too warm for the season which may hide injuries to arms or legs.
- A pattern of repeated injuries.
- A disclosure that he or she was hurt by an adult.

Sexual Abuse is the use of a child in a sexual way. It may be sexual touching, molestation, incest, rape, or taking pictures of a child for obscene or pornographic purposes.

Call When a Child Has Told You...

- They have been touched in a private place.
- About having to play "games" the child doesn't like.
- They have to keep something a secret.
- That someone will be hurt if they tell the secret.

Neglect is when children are not getting the care and protection they need.

Call When a Child...

- Is young and is left alone.
- Lives in a house where health or safety hazards are present.
- Has no home or emergency shelter.
- Has nothing to eat and the child appears hungry and underweight.
- Is without education .



How much do you care?



F.A.Q.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is required to call?

Everyone. This includes doctors, hospital residents, therapists, interns, nurses,



Please call

coroners, school teachers, daycare providers, social workers, relatives, friends, and private citizens.

Who do you call?

A report must be made to your local law enforcement agency such as the police or sheriff's office or to the

What if you are not sure it's abuse?

Department of Health and Welfare, Children and Family Services (CFS).

Call and let the Department of Health and Welfare or law enforcement decide if they have enough information to respond. You need not be prepared to prove that abuse or neglect has occurred before making a report.

How soon do you call?

You must call and report within 24 hours of becoming aware of the abuse or neglect.

Will the family find out you called?

Every reasonable effort is made to maintain confidentiality of an individual who reports child abuse or neglect. However, sometimes the family can figure out who called.

What happens after you call?

- Someone from CFS or the police, or both, will evaluate the situation to determine if there are current and ongoing safety issues for the child.
- CFS will work with the family to try to create a plan so the child can stay safely in his/her home.
- If a child's safety cannot be ensured with a safety plan, the child may be removed from his/her home by law enforcement or the court.
- If a child is removed from their home, CFS is required to work with the child and family toward the child's safe return home.



Don't be afraid to call.

When you call, what information will be helpful?

- Child and family's names, address, and phone number.
- Current location of the child and if they are in immediate danger.
- Description of any injury to the child and when and where the incident occurred.



Will you call?

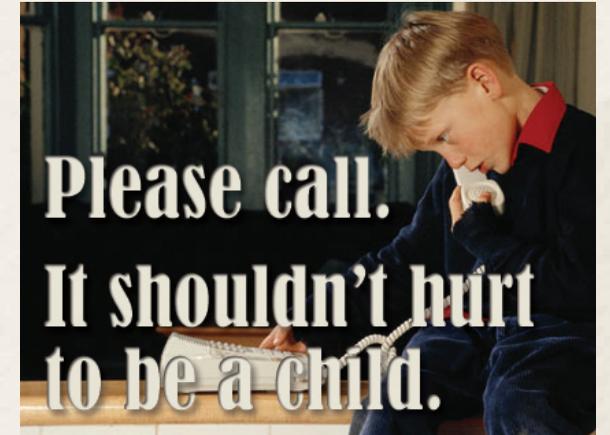
- Names of people who may also have information.
- Explanation of your concerns regarding the child's safety.
- Any additional information you have about the child, family, or caregivers that may be helpful.
- Your name, address, phone number, and relationship to the child. You can choose to make an anonymous report.

What if you don't call?

Failure to call may mean that a child is hurt. In Idaho, it is a misdemeanor if you fail to report child abuse, neglect, or abandonment.

Can you get in legal trouble for calling?

Reports of child abuse or neglect made in "good faith" and without "malice" are immune from civil liability. It is a crime to intentionally make a false report. Idaho Code Sec. 16-1606



The Importance of Early Detection

If children are identified when they show the earliest sign of abuse or neglect, help can be made available when problems can be more readily resolved. Too often referrals to protective services are not made until the conditions of abuse or neglect become severe or life-threatening.

Idaho CareLine • IDHW ★

2-1-1TM
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