Mission

Responding to child abuse through a supportive team approach to reduce the trauma to children and their families.

Healing-Helping-Hope

Mandated Reporter Training

Missouri Child Advocacy Centers

Children's Services

- Forensic Interviewing
- Sexual Assault Forensic Exam (SAFE)
- Mental Health Therapy
- Child & Family Advocacy
Prevention Education

- Body Safety
  - Early Childhood, 1st, and 4th grade
- Internet Safety & Online Enticement
  - 5th and 6th grade
- Sexual Harassment
  - 7th grade
- Mandated Reporting & Handling of Disclosures
- Parent Education Seminars

Program Objectives:

- Legal Responsibilities of Mandated Reporters
- Types of Abuse and Neglect
  - Signs and symptoms
- Handling Disclosures
- Making a Hotline Call

Who Are Mandated Reporters?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Physician</th>
<th>Medical Examiner</th>
<th>Coroner</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dentist</td>
<td>Chiropractor</td>
<td>Optometrist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Podiatrist</td>
<td>Resident intern</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minors as provided by section 332.600 RSMo</td>
<td>Daycare center worker or other child care worker</td>
<td>Healthcare or other personnel engaged in examination, treatment, care, or research of persons</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>Psychologist</td>
<td>Juvenile Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Probation/Parole officer</td>
<td>Jails/detention center personnel</td>
<td>Mental Health professional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal or other school official</td>
<td>Any other health practitioner</td>
<td>Peace officer or law enforcement official</td>
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</table>

"...or other person with responsibility for the care of children."
What is Their Role?

When a Mandatory Reporter has reasonable cause to suspect that a child has been or may be subjected to abuse or neglect or observes a child being subjected to conditions or circumstances which would reasonably result in abuse or neglect, that person shall immediately report to the division in accordance with the procedures of sections 210.110 through 210.183. No internal investigation shall be initiated until such a report has been made. As used in this section, the term "abuse" is not limited to abuse inflicted by a person responsible for the child's care, custody and control as specified in section 210.110, but shall also include abuse inflicted by any other person.

§210.115.1 RSMo.

Legislative Changes (H8505)

The reporting requirements under this section are individual, and no supervisor or administrator may impede or inhibit any reporting under this section. No person making a report under this section shall be subject to any sanction, including any adverse employment action, for making such report. Every employer shall ensure that any employee required to report pursuant to subsection 1 of this section has immediate and unrestricted access to communications technology necessary to make an immediate report and is temporarily relieved of other work duties for such time as is required to make any report required under subsection 1 of this section.

§210.115.3 RSMo.

Types of Child Abuse and Neglect

http://cis.mo.gov/cd/info/cwmanual
What is Neglect?
The failure to provide, by those responsible for the care, custody, and control of the child, the proper or necessary support, education as required by law, nutrition or medical, surgical, or any other care necessary for the child's well-being.

§210.110.12 RSMo.

Why Report Neglect?

Indicators of Neglect
Physical, Emotional, Medical, Supervision, and Education

Behavioral:
- Reports no caretaker or inconsistent caretakers
- Displays excessive need for attention or attention
- Keenly responsible for meeting the needs of the patient
- Neglects food/money from classmates
- Shuggles keeping or making friends

Physical:
- Has not received attention for physical, medical or dental problems
- Consistent bad hygiene
- Attended several schools and delayed enrollment
- Inappropriate clothing for the weather
- Failure to thrive
- Unsafe environment
- Lack of supervision
What is Abuse?
Abuse is any physical injury, sexual abuse, or emotional abuse inflicted on a child other than by accidental means by those responsible for the child's care, custody, and control except that discipline including spanking, administered in a reasonable manner, shall not be construed to be abuse.

210.110.1 RSMo.

What is Physical Injury/Abuse?
Physical pain, illness, or any impairment of physical condition, including but not limited to bruising, lacerations, hematomas, welts, or permanent or temporary disfigurement and impairment of any bodily function or organ.

§568.060.5 RSMo

Indicators of Physical Abuse

Behavioral:
- Becomes withdrawn, aggressive or self-destructive
- Wears clothing to cover body, especially when inappropriate for weather
- Inconsistent refusal and/or lack of explanations for injuries
- Warps of adult contact, changes of friendships when others get close
- Gregory complaint

Physical:
- Has unexplained bruises or injuries
- Has bruises in shape of a hand, shoe, mint, stick, bat
- Has injuries where children can't normally be seen (feet, ears, arms, legs)
- Injuries at different stages of healing
- Bald patches
- Eye injuries (black eye or detached retina)
- Non-mobile children with bruises

210.110.1 RSMo.
Does the picture fit the story?

What is Emotional Abuse?
Mental injury, an injury to the intellectual or psychological capacity or the emotional condition of a child as evidenced by an observable and substantial impairment of the ability of the child to function within his or her normal range of performance or behavior.

Sticks and Stones may break my bones...
Emotional Abuse

Behavioral Indicators:
- Feels fearful or anxious about doing something wrong or making a mistake
- Is excessively withdrawn
- Does not play like other children
- Looks attachment to parent/guardian
- Is bullied or is a bully
- Appears anti-social and/or destructive
- Delayed emotional development

Physical Indicators:
- Speech delays or disorders
- Eating disorders, including anorexia or bulimia
- Frequent rashes or head banging
- Nervous disorders
- Chronic headaches
- Recurrent complaints of stomachaches or headaches
- Infants with flat or bald spots on head

What is Sexual Abuse?

Any sexual act between an adult and a minor or between two minors when one exerts power over the other and can include force, coercion, or persuasion.

CCWRC, 2013

Indicators of Sexual Abuse

Behavioral:
- Refuses adult sexualized behavior, language, and knowledge
- Avoids a specific person or place
- Substance abuse
- Promiscuity
- Self-destructive
- Low self-esteem
- Exhibits signs of depression, anxiety, and guilt

Physical:
- Unexplained bruising or bleeding in the genital area
- Soiling of clothing
- Frequent urinary or yeast infections
- Sudden negative change in appearance
- Unexpectedly has girls' money and toys without reason
Sexual Abuse Survivor

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How Sexual Abuse Occurs

- Grooming
- Power and control
- Tricks
  - Secrets
  - Threats
  - Babes
- Forcing
- Pressuring

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Sexual Abuse Perpetrator

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Minimize the Opportunity

- Vulnerability
  - The offender will pick a child whom they think no one will listen to or believe.
- Accessibility
  - The offender works to create opportunities to be alone with the child.
- Opportunity
  - The offender will need to have earned the trust of everyone.

Interactions should be observable and/or interruptible.

How Children Disclose Abuse

Adapted from CornerHouse.

Victim/Perpetrator Relationship Continuum*

Easier to Disclose  More Difficult

Stranger  Friend  Sibling  Caretaker  Lover

Types of Disclosure
Sorenson and Snow
- ACCIDENTAL 74%
  Abuse Revealed By Chance
- PURPOSEFUL 26%
  Child Makes Conscious Decision to Tell

5 STAGES OF DISCLOSURE
Sorenson and Snow
- Denial
- Tentative
- Active
- Recanting
- Reaffirming

How to Respond to a Child Who Discloses Abuse
Remember: TCARE

- I - Information
  - You only need minimal information about the incident(s) to report.
  - Use the cursory cards as a guide.
  - Do not ask "why" questions.
  - Use the child's vocabulary.
  - There is a fine line between listening and going into active interviewing.

- C - Calm
  - Do not show anger, shock, panic or disbelief.
  - No negative/derogatory comments about the offender.
  - Answer questions honestly and do not make promises you cannot keep.
  - Let the child know what you will do next.
**A - Assure**
- Express attention, compassion, & belief.
- Abuse is NEVER the victim's fault!
- Have a plan for reassuring the child.
- Things you can say:
  - "I am glad you told me."
  - "Thank you for telling me."
  - "What happened was not your fault."

**R - Report**
- Make the hotline call as soon as you suspect abuse.
- Have information regarding demographics, allegation, perpetrator, incident address, and safety of child.
- You are required to leave your name and contact information.
- Confidentiality

Child Abuse & Neglect Hotline
1(800) 392-3738 or (573) 751-3448

**R - Report**
A person who makes a call in "Good Faith" is immune from criminal or civil liabilities.

What happens if I fail to report?
- Class A Misdemeanor
  - Fines up to $1000
  - Up to one year in jail
- Loss of licensure/professional status

The cycle of abuse continues.
E - Encourage

Encourage the child’s healing.
- Family and community support.
- Knowledge is power - educate
- Counseling for children and non-offending family members.

We can make the difference...

It’s everyone’s responsibility to protect our children.

-National Children’s Advocacy Center