It is everyone’s responsibility to protect our children.

-National Children’s Advocacy Center

Program Objectives:
- Legal Requirements
- Indicators of Abuse & Neglect
- Responding to a Disclosure
- Making a Hotline Call
Who Are Mandated Reporters?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Physician</th>
<th>Medical Examiner</th>
<th>Coroner</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dentist</td>
<td>Chiropractor</td>
<td>Optometrist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Podiatrist</td>
<td>Resident Intern</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minister as provided by section 352.400 RSMo</td>
<td>Daycare center worker or other child care worker</td>
<td>Hospital or clinic 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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Probation/Parole officer</td>
<td>Jail/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>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“...or other person with responsibility for the care of children.”

Role as a Mandated Reporter

When a Mandated 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 provisions of sections 210.109 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 (HB505)

“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.

Indicators of Abuse & Neglect

Accidental vs. Purposeful
74% vs. 26%

Sorensen and Snow
Neglect Defined

The failure to provide 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 hotline?

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

Child:
- States there is no one at home to provide care
- Begs or steals food or money
- Inappropriate clothing for the weather
- Consistent bad hygiene

Caretaker:
- Reasons child has not received care for medical, dental, or vision needs
- Reasons for several schools and delayed enrollment
Abuse defined
Abuse is any physical injury, sexual abuse, or emotional abuse inflicted on a child other than by accidental means.

210.110.1 RSMo.

Indicators of Physical Abuse
Child:
- Has unexplained bruises or injuries
- Bruises or injuries in different stages of healing
- Cringes or flinches when others get close
- Non-mobile children with bruises

Caretaker:
- Inconsistent, refusal and/or lack of explanations for injuries
- Report child is accident prone
- Use of harsh physical discipline or punishment
  - Except spanking, administered in a reasonable manner

Report—No Questions Needed
Indicators of Emotional Abuse

Child:
- Lacks attachment to parent/caregiver
- Is bullied or is a bully
- Eating disorders
- Recurrent complaints of stomach aches or headaches
- Fearful or anxious

Caretaker:
- Constantly blames, belittles, or berates the child
- Overtly rejects the child

Sticks and Stones may break my bones...

Indicators of Sexual Abuse

Child:
- Adult sexualized knowledge and/or behavior
- Avoids a specific person or place
- Change in appearance
- Promiscuous
- Unexpectedly has gifts, toys, and money

Caretaker:
- Explains they are a support system to family
- Creates opportunity to be alone with children
Before they turn 18...

1 in 4 girls experience some form of sexual abuse

1 in 6 boys experience some form of sexual abuse

90% of victims know their abuser.

Responding to a Disclosure

STAGES OF DISCLOSURE

Tentative
Active
Reaffirming
Denial
Recanting

Sorenson and Snow
Remember: I CARE

I - Information
C - Calm
A - Assure
R - Report
E - Educate

Information

Most people do not listen with the intent to understand. They listen with the intent to reply.

Calm

just breathe
Assure

All kids need is a little help, a little hope, and somebody who believes in them.

-Magic Johnson

Report

Missouri Hotline
1(800) 392-3738

Failure to Report?
- Class A Misdemeanor
- Loss of licensure/professional status
- The cycle of abuse continues.

Educate
Wentzville Location
989 Heritage Parkway
Wentzville, MO 63385
636.332.0899

Hannibal Location
306 Munger Lane
Hannibal, MO 63401
573.221.2256

Housekeeping