

Mandatory Reporting & Strategies for the Prevention of Child Abuse

What is reportable?

(defined in WAC 110-30-0030)

- Physical abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Negligent treatment or Maltreatment
- Abandonment



Some families need assistance to keep their children and youth safe. When the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) becomes involved with a family, their first priority is to ensure children and youth are safe and well cared for and families have resources to meet their needs. Due to social distancing guidelines, identifying abuse may be difficult. If you are suspicious of abuse or concerned about a child or youth, please call DCYF as soon as possible to discuss and report your concerns. DCYF will make the determination with how to proceed and can provide families with assistance to keep their children and youth safe.

When/Why should I report?

Anyone who has reasonable cause to believe a child has suffered abuse or neglect or may be at risk of abuse or neglect, in good faith, should report. The report must be made at the first opportunity, but in no case longer than 48 hours. "Reasonable cause" means a person witnesses or receives a credible written or oral report alleging abuse, including sexual contact or neglect of a child (RCW 26.44.030).

What information will I be asked to provide?

- Why are you making this mandated report?
(What did you see? Hear?)
 - What identifying information do you have for the family?
(Names, address, dates of birth)
 - Are you aware of any domestic violence?
 - Is there any Native American or Alaska Native ancestry?
- * Please make your call if you have reason to believe child abuse or neglect has occurred, even if you can't answer every question.

Regional Intake Number–Region 3

1-866-829-2153

Serving Whatcom, Skagit, and Snohomish counties
Or call the statewide number: 1-800-END-HARM (1-800-363-4276)



Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION



Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

Communities play an important role in children's lives. It is important that we come together, especially in times of stress, to support one another as we collectively grieve, process, and navigate a 'new' normal. Parents, families, and caregivers are providing continuous care that can go unseen and unappreciated. DCYF and OSPI staff are here for you and we support you. We see you.



Reducing stress in the home may be helped by:

- Staying informed and connected with local school districts, health departments, and credible media outlets.
- Connecting with family and friends via social media, video chat, texting, phone calls, etc.
- Supporting children and their social emotional development by asking about their feelings and fears, clarify misunderstandings and continuously checking-in.
- Implementing a schedule.
- Practicing self-care and taking care of your family—this may include taking moments to take deep breaths, take breaks, and shift expectations.

Parent Trust Family Help Line: 1-800-932-4673

Parent Trust's Family Help Line is a statewide toll-free phone line we want every service provider to know about. Family Help Line Coaches talk to moms, dads, foster parents, grandparents, kinship caregivers, social workers, and many others.

Coaches work one-on-one helping families reduce their stress, learn/use positive parenting techniques, improve parent/child bonding and get connected to community resources. The Family Help Line Coaches are ready to listen.

Call: 1-800-932-4673.

Email: familyhelpline@parenttrust.org