

Even if you are unable to provide all of the information, it is important that you provide what you can and report the suspected abuse or neglect immediately to the police or a child protection worker.

It is not up to you to investigate your suspicions to determine if the abuse or neglect has occurred.

### What Happens Next?

After the report is made, a child protection worker and/or police will decide what steps to take to assess and respond to the allegations.

Other professionals play a critical role in assisting with the investigation, supporting the child during and after the investigation, and providing follow up services.

For more information please refer to the Saskatchewan Child Abuse Protocol 2023:

<https://publications.saskatchewan.ca/#/products/12574>

### Who do you call?

Ministry of Social Services Child Protection Lines:

Regina (South) 1-844-787-3760

Prince Albert (North) 1-866-719-6164

Saskatoon (Centre) 1-800-274-8297

Your local First Nations Child and Family Services Agency.

Your local Police/RCMP.

# Duty to Report



You can make a difference in the life of a child

## What is child abuse?

- Physical Abuse
- Sexual Abuse and Exploitation
- Physical Neglect
- Emotional Maltreatment
- Exposure to Domestic or Interpersonal Violence
- Failure to provide essential medical treatment

## Duty to Report

Anyone having reasonable suspicion that a child's physical or mental health or welfare has been, or may be, impacted by abuse or neglect has a legal duty to report such information immediately to a local Ministry of Social Services Child Protection Office, First Nations Child and Family Services Agency or police.

Even if you believe someone else is reporting the situation, you still have a duty to report.

The Duty to Report overrides professional confidentiality codes when there is reason to believe that a child may be abused or neglected.

Failure to report or reluctance to share appropriate information can contribute to continued abuse and even death of a child.

Failure to report child abuse or neglect may result in professional or legal consequences. There are no legal consequences for a report made in good faith.

If a child discloses abuse to you, do not ask leading questions or insert information. The circumstances must be conveyed in the child's own words.

## What to Report

Your report should include:

- Your name, telephone number and relationship to the child (This information remains confidential, and may be provided anonymously; unless your testimony is required in a court proceeding);
- Your immediate concerns about the child's safety;
- The child's location;
- The child's name;
- The child's age and gender;
- Information about the situation including your observations or, disclosures made to you;
- Information about the family, caregivers and alleged abuser;
- Other children who may be at risk because of the situation; and
- Any other relevant information.