

Who can make a report?

Anyone who suspects a child is being abused or neglected is encouraged to make a report.

The following people are required by law (Ohio Revised Code section 2151.421) to report suspected child abuse or neglect:

- Attorneys
- Audiologists
- Child Care Workers
- Children Services Personnel
- Clergy
- Coroners
- Day Care Personnel
- Dentists
- Foster Parents
- Nurses
- Physicians including hospital Interns and Residents
- Podiatrists
- Psychiatrists
- School Authorities, Employees and Teachers
- Social Workers
- Speech Pathologists
- Animal Control Officers/Agents



Stark County Job & Family Services

Division of Human Services

221 3rd St. SE, Canton, OH 44702
Cash, food, & medical assistance applications
Customer service: 1-844-640-OHIO (6446)
Child Care: 330-452-4661

Division of Children Services

402 2nd St. SE, Canton, OH 44702
Report child abuse and neglect: 330-455-KIDS
Foster care and adoption: 330-451-8789

Division of Child Support

221 3rd St. SE, Canton, OH 44702
Customer service: 330-451-8930
Payment information: JFS.ohio.gov/ocs

Executive Offices

221 3rd St. SE, Canton, OH 44702
Customer service: 330-452-4661

Visit our website at
StarkJFS.org



Be Kid Conscious Report Suspected Child Abuse or Neglect

Division of Children Services



Stark County Job & Family Services
221 3rd St. SE, Canton, OH 44702
Phone: 330-451-8033
StarkJFS.org



What is child abuse or neglect?

There are two basic forms of child maltreatment. They are the abuse of a child and the neglect of a child.

Abuse is generally characterized in three categories:

- **PHYSICAL ABUSE** which is the nonaccidental injury of a child.
- **SEXUAL ABUSE** which is any sexual activity upon, or with, a child. The act may be for sexual gratification of the perpetrator or a third party.
- **EMOTIONAL ABUSE** which is chronic acts that interfere with the psychological and/or social development of a child.

Neglect is the failure to provide for a child in the following ways:

- **EMOTIONAL NEGLECT** which is the lack of nurturing, love and bonding.
- **PHYSICAL NEGLECT** which is the lack of basic physical needs such as clothing, shelter and food.
- **MEDICAL NEGLECT** which is the refusal to give a child life-sustaining medication such as insulin.
- **EDUCATIONAL NEGLECT** which is refusing to provide a child with proper education.

When should a report of suspected child abuse or neglect be made?

If you have reasonable suspicion that a child is suffering abuse or neglect, we encourage you to make a report.

Are there certain hours in which I can make a report?

Suspected child abuse or neglect can be reported at any time. The Child Abuse/Neglect Report Line is staffed 24-hours-a day, seven days a week. To make a child abuse or neglect report call:

330-455-KIDS (5437)

or

1-800-233-KIDS

Do I have to give my name?

No, you may report anonymously. We do, however, encourage you to give your name in case the screener/worker needs to get in touch with you for additional information. The name of the person who makes a report is not disclosed to the family who is being reported.

What information should I have to make a report?

When you make a report of suspected child abuse or neglect you should have the following information:

- current location of the child
- names of the child, parents/ guardians and siblings
- address
- information pertaining to any injuries and how they occurred
- names of any witnesses
- school the child attends and grade level

Although all of this information is not required in order to report concerns, the more information you provide, the better able the call screener is to make the best decision possible.

What happens after I make a report?

If the concerns you report warrant an investigation the following will occur: The report will be screened and the case will be assigned to an assessment worker who will investigate and make the appropriate referrals.

Following a thorough investigation, the case may be closed or transferred to family services. Based on the investigation, the case may or may not require court involvement.

