

# HOW TO REPORT ABUSE: CONNECTICUT

## DISCLOSURE TIPS



### WHAT DO YOU SAY?

- An adult's reaction to disclosure plays an important role in the beginning of the healing process for the child.
- "I'm really glad that you told me."
- "It took a lot of courage to tell me."
- "It's not your fault."
- "We will work together to get you help."
- "I will need to tell some other people who help to protect children."



### WHAT ARE THE CHILD'S NEEDS?

- Be careful not to make promises that you cannot keep. Do not promise you will not tell anyone.
- Report immediately.
- Only speak to those who have to know – confidentially.
- Gentle honesty – keep information age-appropriate and general.

## INFORMATION NEEDED



### HAVE THIS INFORMATION AVAILABLE:

- Names and addresses of the child and their parents or responsible caregiver(s)
- Child's age and gender
- Nature and extent of injury, maltreatment or neglect
- Approximate date and time the injury, maltreatment or neglect occurred
- The circumstances in which the injuries, maltreatment or neglect became known to the reporter
- Previous injury, maltreatment or neglect of the child or siblings
- Name of the person suspected to have caused the injury, maltreatment or neglect
- Any action taken to treat or help the child
- Any other information the reporter believes would be helpful



## MAKE A REPORT

Under Connecticut law, teachers are mandated reporters and must make an oral report within 12 hours of learning about the alleged abuse to the Department of Children and Families Careline at 1-800-842-2288.

Within 48 hours of making an oral report, mandated reporters must complete a written report using the following form: <https://portal.ct.gov/DCF/Mandated-Reporter-Training/Home>.

If you believe a child is in immediate danger, call 911.