

HOW TO REPORT ABUSE: INDIANA

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:

- Child Information: name, age, address, current location, person caring for child, and need/receiving medical treatment

- Parent/Guardian Information: name, address, phone number as well as any domestic violence, substance abuse, criminal history, mental health issues, or past CPS history

- Alleged Perpetrator Information: name, address, phone number, relation to the child, behavioral issues, and other children who may be at risk

- Physical abuse, sexual abuse, or neglect allegations: what happened, when, where, timeframe, and specific conditions



MAKE A REPORT

Indiana law requires ANY individual who has reason to believe that a child is a victim of child abuse or neglect to make a report.

To make a report, call Indiana's Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline 1-800-800-5556, or dial 911 if you believe a child is in immediate danger.

For more information on reporting, please visit <http://www.in.gov/dcs/2971.htm>