

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
- Child Service workers
- Clergy
- Coroners
- Day care workers
- Dentists
- Employees of certified child care agencies
- Health care professionals
- Licensed professional counselors
- Nurses
- Physicians, including interns and residents
- Podiatrists
- Practitioners of limited branches of medicine or surgery as defined in Ohio Revised Code 4731.15
- Psychologists
- School authorities
- School employees
- School psychologists
- School teachers
- Social workers
- Speech pathologists

Stark County Job & Family Services

Human Services Division

221 3rd Street S.E.
Canton, OH 44702
Cash, Food & Medical Assistance
Customer Service/New Applications:
330.451.1844
JOBS/Child Care: 330.452.4661

Children Services Division

402 2nd Street S.E.
Canton, OH 44702
Child Abuse/Neglect Report Line:
330.455.KIDS
Foster/Adopt:
330.451.8789

Child Support Division

221 3rd Street S.E.
Canton, OH 44702
Customer Service: 330.451.8930
Payment information:
jfs.ohio.gov/ocs

SCJFS Executive Offices

221 3rd Street S.E.
Canton, OH 44702
330.452.4661



starkjfs.org



04/20



Be Kid Conscious: Report Suspected Child Abuse or Neglect

Children Services Division



**Stark County
Job & Family Services**

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 non-accidental 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.
- EDUCATION NEGLECT which is refusing to send a child to school for his/her 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 the Report line:

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 by a supervisor 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.