



Training for Mandated Reporters and Others

Free online training for mandated reporters or other interested citizens about reporting child abuse or neglect is now available – funded by the California Department of Social Services, Office of Child Abuse Prevention. The training can be found at:

www.mandatedreporterca.com

California counties' Child Protective Services hotline numbers:

www.childsworld.ca.gov/res/pdf/CPSEmergNumbers.pdf



STATE OF CALIFORNIA

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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REPORTING CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

TRAINING FOR MANDATED REPORTERS AND OTHERS



Office of
Child Abuse Prevention

Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect

Under California law, child abuse is a crime. In the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act (CANRA), California law defines child abuse as any of the following:

- A child is physically injured by other than accidental means
- A child is subjected to willful physical or mental cruelty or unjustifiable punishment
- A child is abused or exploited sexually
- A child is neglected by a parent or caretaker who fails to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter, medical care or supervision.

Frequently but not always, the abuser is a caretaker who may be a parent, stepparent, relative or child care provider.

The Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act (CANRA) is located within the California Penal Code sections 11164-11174.3, and may be viewed at: www.leginfo.ca.gov by selecting California Law, then check Penal Code and insert 11164. The CANRA Act continues until the end of section 11174.3.

Mandated Reporters Required by Law to Report

Mandated Reporters are persons who may come into contact with children during their employment and are required by law, to report reasonable suspicion of child abuse or neglect.

A list of who is a mandated reporter is found in Section 11165.7 of the CA Penal Code.

All mandated reporters should have training to help identify child abuse and neglect and learn the procedures for reporting. Specific paperwork is required to be submitted after making a verbal report to Child Protective Services or law enforcement.

Online training about mandated reporter responsibilities is available free of charge at: www.mandatedreporterca.com. General trainings are offered in addition to profession specific modules for educators, law enforcement, mental health professionals, child care providers, clergy, and medical professionals.

Why Report if Not a Mandated Reporter?

A concerned family member, a relative, a neighbor, a babysitter, or any concerned citizen should report if reasonable suspicion exists of child abuse or neglect. It is always better to consult with Child Protective

Services if not sure about a reasonable suspicion. Any child may be victimized. Many families need help and do not know how to get the help they need to keep their children safe and family strong.

Volunteers, while not mandated to report child abuse and neglect are encouraged to take the free online general training offered at: www.mandatedreporterca.com to help them understand about identifying child abuse or neglect that they may come across in their volunteer work.

Reporters of child abuse and neglect who are not mandated reporters may remain anonymous. It is against the law to make a false report of child abuse or neglect.

Where to Report, Who to Call

When a child is in immediate danger, call 911. Otherwise, call the county's child protective services hotline available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

The contact information for all California counties' child protective services hotlines are listed at: www.childsworld.ca.gov/res/pdf/CPSEmergNumbers.pdf

Questions about a particular situation may be posed to the worker on call in the county.

Questions about reporting procedures may be submitted to Mandated Reporter Training at: www.mandatedreporterca.com.