

# **Mandatory Reporting**

Florida law requires that any person who has knowledge of or suspects abuse, neglect, or abandonment of a child and knowledge of or suspects abuse, neglect, or exploitation of a vulnerable adult is required to report to the Florida Abuse Hotline.

### How to make a Report

The Florida Abuse Hotline accepts reports 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

To make a report you may report by:

# Web:

www.FloridaAbuseHotline.com

Telephone:
1-800-962-2873
1-800-96ABUSE
(Florida Relay Services: 711)

### Fax:

1-800-914-0004

If you suspect or know of a child or vulnerable adult in immediate danger, call 911.

Florida Abuse Hotline 1317 Winewood Boulevard Tallahassee, Florida 32399 www.MyFLFamilies.com

# Florida Abuse Hotline Child Reporting Guide

Department Mission: Protect the Vulnerable, Promote Strong and Economically Self-Sufficient Families, and Advance Personal and Family Recovery and Resiliency.

# Jurisdiction is defined in Chapter 39 of the Florida Statutes:

### Is the alleged victim a child?

- Under the age 18
- Not Emancipated
- Not Married

# Is the alleged perpetrator a caregiver or non caregiver?

- Parent
- Legal Custodian
- Permanent Guardian
- Adult Household Member
- Other Person Responsible for the child's welfare

# Residency / Location:

### The alleged child victim must be:

- A resident of Florida with a valid means to locate in Florida at the time of the call (may be temporarily outside Florida).
- Not a resident of Florida, however, the incident of harm occurred in Florida and the victim and alleged perpetrator are currently in Florida.
- Not a resident of Florida and the incident of harm occurred outside of Florida; however, there is cause to believe harm will reoccur or continue while the victim and alleged perpetrator are currently in Florida.

# Reasonable Cause to Suspect Harm / Maltreatments:

### Possible Abuse Indicators:

- Burns
- Bone Fractures
- Asphyxiation
- Physical Injuries
- Internal Injuries
- Bizarre Punishment
- Mental Injuries
- Sexual Abuse
- Human Trafficking
- Death

# **Possible Neglect Indicators:**

- Abandonment
- Inadequate Supervision
- Substance Misuse
- Environmental Hazards
- Malnutrition/Dehydration
- Failure to Thrive
- Medical Neglect
- Failure to Protect
- Family Violence

### **Special Conditions Reports:**

- Foster Care Referral
- Child on Child Sexual Abuse
- Caregiver Unavailable
- Parent in Need of Assistance