

Child abuse and neglect is defined as an act or failure to act on the part of a caretaker which results in the death, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse or exploitation of a child.



There are 4 types of child abuse

Physical:

Shaking, beating, burning, failure to provide the necessities of life.

Emotional:

Failure to provide warmth, attention, supervision, normal living expenses.

Sexual:

Any act of sexual nature upon or with a child. Often perpetrated by using force or taking advantage of another person.

Neglect:

Failure of caretaker to provide food, clean clothes, medical care, or comfort for a child.

Children of all economic status and ethnicity are at risk of being abused.



How can you help?



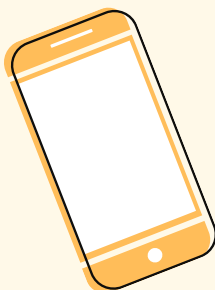
In the State of Tennessee, **EVERYONE** is a mandated reporter. This means that if you see or suspect abuse, you must report it. It's the law!



Listen and believe a child when they disclose abuse. By being an available, responsible adult, you can provide a safe place for a child to talk.



There is no physical or social profile of an abuser. Signs to look for are: jealousy, insecurity, hypersensitivity, violence, manipulative behavior, alcohol & drug abuse, cruelty to animals and children, and gaslighting.



To report abuse, call:
877-237-0004