



WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN MAKING A REPORT

All New Jersey residents are mandated reporters, meaning that by law anyone with a reasonable suspicion that a child has been abused or neglected is required to report it to authorities immediately. A concerned caller does not need proof to report an allegation of child abuse and can make the report anonymously. If you have a suspicion, call the New Jersey Child Abuse Hotline. The Hotline is open 24-hours a day, 7-days a week.

New Jersey Child Abuse Hotline
1-877-NJ ABUSE
1-877-652-2873

When you decide to report your suspicion you are not alone. The NJ Child Abuse Hotline receives approximately 500 calls per day and is staffed with nearly 100 trained professionals who know how to respond to reports of abuse and neglect. They will help determine whether further response is needed, and provide you with guidance about what you should do after you make the report.

The person with the suspicion should be the person who makes the call (though it's okay to have your supervisor or school official on the call with you). When you call, be prepared to discuss your suspicion in detail and to provide the following information:

- **Who:** The child and parent/caregiver's name, age and address and the name of the alleged perpetrator and that person's relationship to the child.
- **What:** Type and frequency of alleged abuse/neglect, current or previous injuries to the child and what caused you to become concerned.
- **When:** When the alleged abuse/neglect occurred and when you learned of it.
- **Where:** Where the incident occurred, where the child is now and whether the alleged perpetrator has access to the child.
- **How:** How urgent the need is for intervention and whether there is a likelihood of imminent danger for the child.