

# Child Abuse Prevention & Community

Resources

2023



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This brief guide is an effort to raise awareness on the matter of child abuse. Here the reader will find information on ways in which abuse may show up in a child's life, preventative measures/protective factors, and resources to contact for additional support.

# HOPE Collaborative Welcome Message



The mission of HOPE Collaborative is to promote the safety of children and prevent abuse and neglect in Riverside County. This is done by:

- Facilitating interagency collaborations
- Educating and training parents, professionals, and the community
- Outreach and services to child abuse victims and families

### 1974

The child abuse prevention and treatment act (CAPTA) was passed to ensure the welfare and safety of children.

# What is Shild Abuse Prevention Month



## Present Day Efforts

The month of April is nationally recognized throughout the United States. It's goal continues to be on raising awareness and creating prevention efforts. This is done through public awareness, community activities, and an annual flag raising ceremony.



# What is Child Abuse?

Abuse is any form of emotional, psychological, and physical harm that can alter a child's life.

# Four Types of Abuse:



Neglect is when a child's basic needs are lacking or not provided. These elements can vary from food, shelter, and/or medical care.

Emotional abuse is willful cruelty or unjustified punishment. This includes inflicting or permitting physical pain, mental suffering, and/or endangerment of the child.

Physical abuse is the injury or harm of a child not inflicted by accident. This includes bruising, patterned marks, and/or multiple injuries at different stages of healing.

<u>Sexual abuse</u> is any sexual activity where an adult or older adolescent engages with a minor. This includes sexual assault, sexual exploitation, and sexual exposure.

**Please visit:** 

https://mandatedreporterca.com/

for more information

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# Recognizing the Signs:



\*Disclaimer: This is not a list of all of the signs of child abuse. A single sign does not mean that abuse is happening, but it is important to pay attention to behaviors that can be unusual or concerning.

<u>Neglect</u> can be exhibited in the form of frequent school absences, consistently dirty appearance and severe body odor, or when a child regularly states no one is home.

Emotional abuse can be shown as depression or suicidal thoughts, a child showing extremes in behavior, or when they struggle to form emotional bonds with peers/family members.

<u>Physical abuse</u> can be identified as changes in eating and sleeping, children exhibiting withdrawn or aggressive behavior, and shrinking at the approach of adults.

Sexual abuse can be displayed as bizarre, sophisticated, or unusual sexual knowledge/behavior, when a child attaches very quickly to strangers or new adults, or experiences bleeding, bruising, or swelling in their private parts.

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for more information

## How to Report Child Abuse

#### National Child Abuse Hotline

If you suspect a child is being abused, please call or text 1-800-4-A-CHILD (1-800-422-4453)

Riverside County Hotline

(800) 442-4918



# What Information is Needed to Report?

It is helpful to have as much of the listed information as possible. Even if you do not have all the information on this list, please still report.

- Names and ages/dates of birth for the child and/or family
- Address for the child and/or family
- The issue that prompted the call and how the information was obtained
- Date(s) and description(s) of the injuries or dangers to the child
- Identities of perpetrator(s) and their relationship(s) to the victim
- Witnesses to the incident(s) and how they may be reached
- Details of any physical evidence available
- Alleged perpetrator's current access to the child
- Present condition of the child (alone, in need of medical attention, etc.)
- Any statements from the child

**Please visit:** 

https://rivcodpss.org/rep ort-abuse/child-abuse

for more information

# Preventative Measures

#### Strategy

## Create supportive programs to encourage positive parenting and caregiving

Provide quality care and education early in life

Strengthen parenting skills to better the child's development

Mediate to reduce potential harms and risks

#### **Approach**

- Parent and caregiver participation in educational campaigns
- Check in with children and spending quality time
- Communication
- Regulating feelings & understanding parenting style
- Attend parenting/child classes to learn more

# Protective Factors

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#### **Purpose**

Nurturing and attachment

Establishes a love and trusting relationship between child and caregiver

Knowledge of parent and child development

Caregivers learn to understand and adapt as their relationship with their child evolves as they grow up

Social and emotional competence of children

Caregivers model positive skills and provide a safe and secure environment for children

Parental Resilience

Building this skill promotes effective problem solving and stress management for the entire family unit

Concrete support for parents

Empowers caregivers to know they have a reliable support system

Social connections

Connectedness improves self esteem/confidence

## Important

## Resources



Organization

Description

Contact

Family Service Association Child Abuse
Treatment Program
CHAT: Provides
individual therapy,
family therapy, and
case management.

CHAT Call Center: (951) 369-8036

For more info on services: www.fsaca.org/s ervice-highlights

RUHS-Behavioral Health Children's

<u>Treatment Services:</u>

For children with severe emotional and behavioral problems. Services include psychiatric evaluations, medication services, individual and family therapy, and case management services.

Parent Non-Crisis Support Line: (888) 358-3622

Parent Partners Program: (951) 358-5862

https://www.rcd mh.org/

https://safefjc.org/

#### Resources Cont.

#### Organization Description Contact Food Pantry: Fresh and non-perishable food in Call Center: cans/cartons. (951) 689-7847 refrigerated meats, vegetables & dairy Lutheran rcinfo@LSSSC.org products. Agency also Social offers rental https://www.lsssc.o Services assistance. ID rg/location/riversid vouchers, e-county/ transportation vouchers, and case management. Call Center: Housing: Provides (951) 351-4418 emergency shelter, Operation intervention, and 24-hour Crisis Line 800-561-6944 outreach services to SafeHouse runaway, homeless or other youth in crisis. https://operationsa fehouse.org/ <u>Legal:</u> Provides advocacy and support services to individuals SAFF Call Center: who have experienced **Families** (951) 955-6100 domestic violence. Justice sexual assault, human

trafficking, child/elder abuse, and services for

at risk youth.

Center

#### **Resources Cont.**

Organization

Description

Contact

Molina Healthcare Health Plan
Coverage:
Health plan that
provides caring,
quality medical
insurance to

families.

Toll Free Line: (562) 499-6191

https://www.molinahealthcare.com

Planned Parenthood <u>Health Centers:</u>

Provide preventative care, reproductive health Call Center: 1-(888) 743-7562

https://www.plannedparenthood.org/

\*Visit Connect IE for more information on free or reduced cost services at https://www.connectie.org/\*

For additional resources visit:





Riverside County Child Abuse Prevention Council www.hopecollaborative.org (951) 686-3750

