

Do you need to report the abuse, neglect or exploitation of a child or children?

Tennessee Child Abuse Hotline: 877-237-0004

→ **In case of emergency and in life-threatening situations, Call 9-1-1.**

→ Call the Child Abuse Hotline to report knowledge or suspicions of child abuse or neglect in the State of Tennessee.

→ Reports also can be made online on our [secure site](#) or by using the [MyTN](#) mobile app.

Our trained case managers will guide Hotline callers through a series of questions. Callers do not have to know all the details of the abuse or neglect. The Hotline case managers use the information you provide to determine the severity of the situation and how best to intervene.

Possible Indicators of Abuse and Neglect:

- The child has repeated injuries that are not properly treated or adequately explained.
- The child begins acting in unusual ways ranging from disruptive and aggressive to passive and withdrawn.
- The child acts as a parent toward his or her brothers and sisters or even toward their own parents.
- The child may have disturbed sleep (nightmares, bed wetting, fear of sleeping alone, and needing nightlight).
- The child loses his/her appetite, overeats or may report being hungry.
- There is a sudden drop in school grades or participation in activities.
- The child may act in ways that are developmentally inappropriate, such as sexual behavior that is not normal for his/her age group.
- The child may report abusive or neglectful acts.
- The caregiver appears to be under the influence to the extent they are unable to care for their child.
- There is evidence of illicit substance use in the home (e.g., drug paraphernalia) or other hazards that could lead to child injury/illness (e.g., weapons in reach, extremely unsanitary conditions)

Note: The above signs can indicate something is wrong but do not necessarily indicate abuse or neglect.

Download an [information poster](#) with the hotline number you can display in your school, business or church. Spanish version: [Information Poster](#)

Mandated Reporter Training:

Every Tennessean over the age of 18 is a mandated reporter, meaning you have a legal obligation to report suspicions or knowledge of child abuse or neglect. A free online training offers the public information on how to report child abuse and neglect in Tennessee. It explains how the process works, plus policies, laws and what reporters can expect.

[Access the training](#)