

Referrals for the Central Minnesota Child Advocacy Center must come from law enforcement or human services personnel.

What should I do if a child is abused or neglected?

When a child discloses they have been abused and/or neglected, it is important that you:

DO

- Believe the child
- Listen to the child
- Support the child
 - Validate their feelings



DO NOT

- Investigate
- Ask leading questions
- Make promises
- Notify the parent(s) or caregiver(s)

Ask the following questions:

- What happened?
- Who did this to you?
- Where did this happen?
- When did this happen?

Other information you may be asked to provide:

- Your name, phone number, and relationship to the child
- A description of current injuries or neglect conditions
- Names and addresses of child, parent, and offender

Please continue to follow the requirements for mandated reporting outlined in the "Reporting of Maltreatment of Minors Act" state law (Minn. Stat. § 626.556).

Report suspected child maltreatment IMMEDIATELY

The reporter should be the person who received the information directly from the child

Where do I report?

Report to the county where the child lives

In the case of an immediate emergency call: 911

Human Services / Child Protection County Agency	Business Hours	Phone Number	After hours, weekends, holidays* (<i>Sheriff's non-emergency dispatch</i>)
Benton	8:00am-4:30pm	320-968-5087	320-968-7201
Crow Wing	8:00am-5:00pm	218-824-1140	218-829-4749
Douglas	8:00am-4:30pm	320-762-2302	320-762-8151
Kandiyohi	8:00am-4:30pm	320-231-7800	320-235-1260
Meeker	8:00am-4:30pm	320-693-5300	320-693-5400
Mille Lacs	8:00am-4:30pm	320-983-8208	320-983-8250
Morrison	8:00am-4:30pm	320-632-2951	320-632-9233
Pope	8:00am-4:30pm	320-634-7774	320-634-5411
Sherburne	8:00am-4:30pm	763-765-4000	763-765-3500
Stearns	8:00am-4:30pm	320-656-6000	320-251-4240
Todd	8:00am-4:30pm	320-732-4500	320-732-2157
Wright	8:00am-4:30pm	763-682-7449	763-682-7400

* Dispatch will contact the on-call social worker who will return your call

Recreated with permission from the Stearns-Benton Child Protection Team