

State of Maryland-Child Protective Services  
**REPORT OF SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT**  
 (see instructions on next page)

1. NAME OF LOCAL DEPARTMENT BEING NOTIFIED <b>HARFORD COUNTY CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES</b>		PHONE <b>1-800-917-7383 (fax) 410-836-4919</b>			Worker		
2. PERSON MAKING REPORT (Name)				3. POSITION/TITLE			
4. NAME OF DEPARTMENT/ORGANIZATION		ADDRESS			ZIP	5. TELEPHONE	
6. TYPE OF REFERRAL PHYSICAL ABUSE                  SEXUAL ABUSE                  NEGLECT                  MENTAL INJURY – ABUSE                  MENTAL INJURY - NEGLECT							
7. NAME OF CHILD				8. SEX	9. BIRTH DATE		10. RACE
11. ADDRESS ( <i>Where Child Can Be Seen</i> )		CITY		STATE MD	ZIP	12. GRADE	13. SCHOOL
14. NAME OF PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR CHILD'S CARE		14A. AGE/D.O.B.	14B. ADDRESS			14C. TELEPHONE	
PARENTS/GUARDIAN		AGE/D.O.B.	ADDRESS			TELEPHONE	
MOTHER:							
FATHER:							
GUARDIAN ( <i>Specify Relation</i> ):							
15. NAME OF SUSPECTED ABUSER /NEGLECTOR		16. RELATION	17. AGE/D.O.B.	18. ADDRESS		19. TELEPHONE	
20. STATE NATURE EXTENT OF THE CURRENT ABUSE/NEGLECT TO THE CHILD IN QUESTION: EXPLAIN THE CIRCUMSTANCES LEADING TO THE SUSPICION THE CHILD IS AN ABUSE/NEGLECT VICTIM. DESCRIBE ANY INJURY OR RISK. DESCRIBE HOW REPORTER KNOWS INFORMATION.							
21. LIST INFORMATION CONCERNING PREVIOUS ABUSE/NEGLECT TO THE CHILDREN/OTHER CHILDREN IN THE FAMILY, INCLUDING PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN. HOW DOES THE REPORTER KNOW THIS INFORMATION?							
22. DESCRIBE INFORMATION KNOWN ABOUT FAMILY FUNCTIONING, RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PARENT, CARETAKER, OTHER ADULTS IN HOME AND CHILDREN AND LIKELY RESPONSE BY FAMILY TO DISCLOSURE. HOW DOES THE REPORTER KNOW THIS INFORMATION?							
23. STATE ANY OTHER AVAILABLE INFORMATION THAT WOULD AID IN ESTABLISHING THE CAUSE OF THE ALLEGED ABUSE/NEGLECT.							
24. ARE WEAPONS IN THE HOME OR KNOWN TO BE CARRIED BY THE FAMILY OR ACCUSED ABUSER?  Yes                  No                  Unknown		25. IS THERE A HISTORY OF VIOLENCE, DRUGS, MENTAL ILLNESS OR RETALIATION IN THE FAMILY?  Yes                  No                  Unknown			26. IF YES TO EITHER, DESCRIBE IN DETAIL ON SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER		
27. SIGNATURE OF PERSON REPORTING				DATE	28. DATE/HOUR ORAL CONTACT IN LDSS		
29. REPORT TAKEN  Yes                  No		30. NAME OF LDSS STAFF TO WHOM ORAL REPORT WAS MADE					

TEMPLATE VERSION OF DHR/SSA 180 (5/98) Previous editions are obsolete

**Complete 4 copies:**

2 Copies – Harford County Department of Social Services – 2 Bond Street Bel Air, MD 21014

1 Copy - Harford County State's Attorney's Office, Family Justice Center, 23 N. Main Street, Bel Air, MD 21014

Following copies should not include informant's name or signature: Attn: Mental Health Services Specialist- Student Services and Principal's Office

1/2024

## **CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT**

Child abuse and neglect is a serious problem which requires the involvement of all citizens and professionals in the community for the purposes of prevention, identification, and treatment. In Maryland, the child abuse and neglect law requires that anyone who SUSPECTS that a child has been or is being mistreated must report the matter to the Department of Social Services or to the Police. Any professional who knowingly fails to make a required report may be subjected to dismissal. The professionals identified in Maryland Law include: health practitioners, police officers, educators, and social workers. Any person who, in good faith, makes a report of abuse or neglect is IMMUNE from any civil liability or criminal penalty.

The following information is provided so that you will be familiar with the possible physical and behavioral indicators of child abuse and neglect. Please note that the presence of any of these indicators does not necessarily mean a child is being abused or neglected. They may, however, lead you to suspect abuse or neglect and therefore report it.

### **PHYSICAL ABUSE**

#### **PHYSICAL INDICATORS:**

Bruises: on any young children; facial area; in unusual patterns; clustered in one area of the body; in various stages of healing; both eyes “blackened” with no injury to the nose.

Burns: caused by immersion in hot liquid; cigarette burns (usually on palms of hands leaving “crater” shaped burns); caused by hot implement, such as electrical curling iron (leaving burn marks in the shape of the implement); or caused by ropes that indicate confinement.

Welts, cuts, abrasions, fractures, and internal injuries: may occur through normal childhood experiences, they should only cause concern when coupled with some other physical or behavioral indicator. You should also be concerned if the injury does not seem likely to have resulted from normal activity, given the child’s age and physical development, or the explanation does not fit the injury.

#### **BEHAVIORAL INDICATORS:**

Child: overly compliant, shy, or aggressive behavior; avoids parents; inhibited crying; hyperactive; avoids physical contact; low tolerance for frustration; distrustful.

Parent: holds unrealistic expectations for the child’s physical or emotional development; “immature”; dependent; aggressive; low sense of self-esteem; sees the child as “bad,” “different,” or “evil” low tolerance for frustration; inappropriate coping skills.

### **NEGLECT**

#### **PHYSICAL INDICATORS:**

A neglected child: extremely dirty and unkempt; continually requesting food; left unattended or inadequately supervised for long periods of time; wearing inadequate or weather-inappropriate clothing; ignored or badgered by caretaker; forced to engage in criminal behavior at the direction of the caretaker.

#### **BEHAVIORAL INDICATORS:**

Child: withdrawn; shy; passive; always tired; developmentally slow.

Parent: apathetic, shows little concern or awareness of the child’s needs; shows anger when questioned about child’s care; impulsive in making decisions; inconsistent disciplinary practices; overwhelming personal needs.

### **SEXUAL ABUSE**

#### **PHYSICAL INDICATORS:**

Child: difficulty in sitting or walking; repeated symptoms of medical problems with the genitals or digestive system; sexually transmitted diseases; pregnancy.

#### **BEHAVIORAL INDICATORS:**

Child: unusual sexual behavior or knowledge; nightmares; poor peer relationships; few social skills, extremely isolated; repeated “runaways”; depression.

Parent: extremely overprotective; overly interested in child’s social and sexual life; sees child as highly sexualized; jealous.