

MHNS Child Abuse Reporting Procedures



MD State Law & Office of Childcare Regulation

- Requires employee or staff members to report an suspicion of child abuse or neglect to Howard county Department of Social Services.
- Provides immunity from civil liability or criminal penalty for a report made in good faith.
- Failure to report may result in suspension or termination of services.

MD State Law & OCC Regulation

- Also requires service providers/volunteer to make a report if there is a reason to believe that abuse or neglect possibly occurred. Reports should be made without attempts to do any further investigation.
- If needed, service providers/volunteers may consult with the Director. The Director cannot make the report to Department of Social Services on your behalf.

Reporting Child Abuse or Neglect

- Make oral report immediately to Department of Social Services.
- Follow up with written report within 48 hours.
- Tell Director that a report was filed.
- Do not place copy of report in student educational record.

Service Providers Code of Ethics

- Confidentiality: Any information you have access to in the school or classroom is confidential.
- As a volunteer, you are required to protect the confidentiality of all student information that you see or hear while volunteering.

Unattended Children

Department of Social Services

- Children must not be left unattended in cars, parking lot or playground.

Office of Child Care

For more information, please visit the Office of Child Care website:

<https://earlychildhood.marylandpublicschools.org/child-care-providers/office-child-care>

Now that you have watched the presentation, please click this link and electronically sign that you have viewed and understand the policy for volunteers and the Child Abuse Reporting Procedures. Should you have any questions, please contact the front office.

<http://goo.gl/forms/JkXzWlcs8t>