



Reporting Child Abuse In Linn Benton and Lincoln Counties

Child Abuse Hotline: 541-757-5019

Toll Free: 866-303-4643

If you have reason to believe that child abuse may have occurred, you must IMMEDIATELY report to DHS or Law Enforcement.

Examples of Abuse:

Physical Injury and child reports being hurt or injured or child's explanation of the injury is not consistent with the injury.

Neglect: Child is being endangered. Lack of food, clothing, medical attention, supervision of young child.

Mental Injury: Extreme humiliation, cruel or unconscionable statements and/or acts that have a direct effect on the child.

Sexual Abuse: Sexual contact, exposure to sexual material, sex with a child under the age of 18 years old.

Threat of Harm: Caregiver behavior threatens child safety. Examples: Domestic Violence in front of children, driving while intoxicated.

You may use this form to "document" the information needed to make a report of abuse and/or neglect but please remember that all reports of child abuse and/ or neglect must be cross reported directly to the Child Abuse hotline or Law Enforcement immediately and verbally to the child abuse hotline and or law enforcement.

Today's Date:

Time:

Reporters Name: _____

Phone: _____

SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE REPORTING FOR: LINN – BENTON - LINCOLN COUNTY

Association: _____

Name of child: _____

DOB: _____

Child's Address: _____

Phone: _____

Sibling (s)

Name: _____

DOB: _____

Name of parent/caretaker: _____

Parent/Caretaker's address: _____

(if different from child's address) _____

Type of abuse: _____

Does child have current injuries? - Yes - No

If yes, what is child's explanation of the injury?

Is there additional information / history / concerns you would like to add?

Have you spoken to anyone within the agency yet? Yes No

Name: _____

When: _____

Screening Unit: 541-757-5019

Toll Free: 866-303-4643

Fax this report to: 541-757-5018

Mandatory Reporters who work closely with children

The amount of questioning mandated reporters do depends on what is appropriate for their job. Professionals who work with children on a regular basis often have an ongoing relationship with them. Because of these relationships, children often feel safe to disclose. These professionals are often in a position to notice changes in children's behavior or appearance that may be concerning for abuse.

DHS cannot respond unless there is a specific allegation of abuse. "Mary seems withdrawn and quiet," is not an allegation of abuse. "Mary said she got hit by her mom," is potentially an allegation of abuse. However, we need your help in gathering additional details to help us make a decision about our response.

We do not want reporters to feel that they are being asked to investigate. Additional details can be gathered by listening, being sympathetic, asking questions you might naturally ask a child out of concern for their well being. You can help DHS make informed decisions that are in the best interest of children. Additional helpful information for us includes:

- When did this occur?
- Is there a mark or injury?
- Does the child appear to be in pain?
- Was any context given (accidental, part of discipline, etc.)?
- What prompted the child's statement?

Sometimes you have a feeling that a child is being abused but there are no visible marks and the child hasn't disclosed any concerns. As your relationship with the child allows, you can ask the child about your concern in a non-threatening, non-leading way. General questions could include:

- "Is there anything wrong?"
- "You look upset, is there something you want to talk about?"

Please remember, if in doubt about whether you have information that would constitute a report of abuse, just call us. We will attempt to gather as much information as possible to help make a decision that will assist in keeping children safe.

**Linn Benton Lincoln Child Welfare Hotline at: 541-757-5019 or
1-866-303-4643.**

You can also visit our website at:
www.oregon.gov/DHS/children/abuse/cps/report.shtml