
Reporting Cases of Child Abuse Is the Responsibility of Every Citizen of North Haven

- **If you suspect child abuse or neglect:**
 - ➔ **Contact the DCF Child Abuse and Neglect Careline at 1-800-842-2288**

The Department has a single point of contact statewide for the reporting of suspected child abuse and neglect. The Child Abuse and Neglect Careline operates 24 hours a day and seven days a week. Anyone who suspects that a child has been abused or neglected or is in danger of abuse or neglect is strongly encouraged to call the Careline. DCF is required to tape record all reports to the Careline.

- **To receive more information and talk to a trained professional:**

➔ **Call 211, and follow the prompts**

211 is Connecticut's free information and referral service. Simply by dialing 2-1-1, a toll free number throughout Connecticut, callers can reach knowledgeable, multilingual staff and get information, referrals or seek help in a crisis. 2-1-1 operates 24 hours a day, every day of the year. TDD access is available. 2-1-1 is supported by the State of Connecticut (www.ct.gov) and Connecticut United Way (www.ctunitedway.org).

➔ **Contact Town of North Haven Counseling Services at 203-239-5321 ext. 500**

Services include mental health assessment, treatment and psychosocial education all provided in a safe, confidential setting.

- **In the event of witnessing immediate danger to a child:**
 - ➔ **Call 911, and follow the instructions of the operator.**

Town of North Haven, 18 Church Street, North Haven, CT 06473
www.town.north-haven.ct.us
203-239-5321

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Child Abuse Prevention

It only takes the actions of a single person to make a difference in the life of a child. Lives are affected and changed as a result. Each one of us can contribute to ensuring the safety and well-being for all children in our communities. If one person can achieve so much, imagine what is possible when members of a community come together to protect children. The results can be lifesaving.

Simple steps you can take:

- Educate yourself about child abuse prevention
- Report any suspicions of child abuse
- Listen to children
- Know that abuse is never a victim's fault
- Believe in your own ability to make a difference

What can parents do?

- Teach children about healthy and safe relationships
- Know the warning signs of potential abuse
- Know who your child is spending time with
- Make sure your child knows what to do in the event that they are abused

What is Abuse?

- A non-accidental injury to a child.
- Maltreatments such as, but not limited to, malnutrition, sexual molestation, deprivation of necessities including medical, emotional and moral neglect, emotional maltreatment or cruel punishment.

Finding Help When You Need It

Help is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. It is also important to know this assistance is available both to those being abused, and those who may be abusive and need help.



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