Training Module 3: Indicators of Child Abuse or Neglect Training

Recognize the signs that may signal child abuse or neglect and learn what to do if you suspect a child is being abused or neglected.

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Developer: F&O Service Center of Excellence
Disclaimer

This training module contains general guidelines and information. It is not intended to be a comprehensive summary or to address all possible applications of, or exceptions to, the topics described herein. Various scenarios and issues are covered, but please note that these are to be used as a tool for further guidance and do not represent an exhaustive list of possible scenarios and topics that Program Staff may encounter. This training module should not substitute for additional training to be provided by individual Covered Programs or for guidance on specific situations to be provided by administrators of Covered Programs.
What is child abuse or neglect?

**Child Abuse**

The North Carolina Division of Social Services (DSS) defines child abuse as “the intentional maltreatment of a child that can be physical, sexual, or emotional in nature.”

**Child Neglect**

The North Carolina Division of Social Services (DSS) defines neglect as “the failure to give children the necessary care they need.”
Mandatory Reporting

• Both as a matter of University Policy and North Carolina State Law, any member of the University Community who reasonably suspects that a Minor has experienced Child Abuse, Neglect or Violent Offense (Per G.S. 14-318.6) by a parent, guardian, caretaker, peer, non-custodial adult or Covered Program Staff member has an absolute obligation to report that suspicion to:
  - The UNC-CH Police Department; and/or DSS.
  - The UNC-CH Protection of Minors Coordinator.

It’s the law!
Mandatory Reporting

• As long as you are acting in good faith, you cannot be held liable (N.C.G.S. §7B-309).

• Such individuals are known as “Mandated Reporters”.

It’s the law!
Mandatory Reporting Changes
G.S.14-318.6(b)

Any person 18 years or older who knows or should have reasonably known that a juvenile has been or is the victim of a violent offense, sexual offense, or misdemeanor child abuse under G.S. 14-318.2 shall immediately report that case of that juvenile to the appropriate local law enforcement agency in the county where the juvenile resides or is found.

All incidents involving a minor will immediately be reported to UNC-CH Police Department.
The obligation to make a report to a county DSS of suspected child abuse, neglect or dependency is separate and independent from the obligation to make a report to a local law enforcement agency when a person knows or reasonably should have known a juvenile is or has been a victim of a designated crime.

**Depending on the facts:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Report to DSS</th>
<th>Report to Law Enforcement</th>
<th>Report to both DSS and Law Enforcement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>There is abuse, neglect or dependency but no crime.</td>
<td>There is a designated crime, but no abuse, neglect or dependency.</td>
<td>There is abuse, neglect or dependency, and the juvenile is a victim of a designated crime.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What Does this Mean for You?

• Law expands existing mandated reporting laws to all youth sport organizations that participate in international/interstate sporting events.

• Any adult authorized to interact with youth athletes are required to report suspicions of abuse to the appropriate law enforcement agencies within 24 hours.

• All staff and volunteers working with youth could be considered mandatory reporters under the federal act.
What Does this Mean for You?

• There is an additional requirement to report suspicions to the US Center for SafeSport if your organization is governed by a “National Governing Body” or “Paralympic Sports Organization.”

To report suspicions of abuse to the US Center for SafeSport, training, or for more information: [https://uscenterforsafesport.org/](https://uscenterforsafesport.org/)
How big is the problem?

According to the CDC, 1 in 7 children experienced child abuse and neglect in the last year.
Key Facts from the New Child Maltreatment Report

Report Findings

Child Maltreatment 2017 includes information on reports made to child protective services (CPS) agencies, the demographics of children involved, the types of maltreatment, CPS responses, the number of fatalities, child and caregiver risk factors, perpetrators of abuse and neglect, and available services.

- The national rounded number of victims increased 2.7% from 2013 (656,000) to (674,000).
- The number of children who received a child protective services investigation or alternative response increased 10% from 2013 (3,184,000) to 2017 (3,501,000). The number and rate of victims fluctuated during the past 5 years.
- The percentage of child abuse and neglect victims with caregiver alcohol misuse risk factor increased from 10.6% to 12.1% from 2015-2017.
Adverse childhood experiences have a tremendous impact on future violence victimization and perpetration and lifelong health and opportunity.
Financial Impacts of Child Abuse

Long-term Impacts

The long-term financial impacts of abuse and neglect is staggering. For new cases in 2008 alone, lifetime estimates of lost worker productivity, health care costs, special education costs, child welfare expenditures and criminal justice expenditures added up to $124 billion.
Child Maltreatment Fatalities

Around **80%** of child maltreatment fatalities involve at least one parent as perpetrator.

More than **70%** of the children who died as a result of child abuse or neglect were 2 years old or younger.

More than **80%** were not yet old enough for kindergarten.

In 2014, state agencies identified an estimated 1,580 children who died as a result of abuse and neglect – between 4 and 5 children a day.
Behavioral Health & Crime Related to Child Abuse

In a study of 513 children exposed to drugs in utero, rates of abuse were 2 to 3 times that of other children in the same geographical area.

As many as two-thirds of the people in treatment for drug abuse reported being abused or neglected as children.

Children who experience child abuse and neglect are 9 times more likely to become involved in criminal activity.

14% of all men and 36% of women in prison in the USA were abused as children. This is about twice the frequently seen in the general population.
Recognizing Child Abuse or Neglect

It is important to note that any one of these things could mean anything or nothing. For example, there are many reasons a child may or may not want to go home on any particular day, or a child may be overly compliant when they are trying to please a favorite staff member.

It is also important to remember that issues related solely to poverty are not considered child maltreatment issues.

However, clusters of two or more of these, should raise a red flag.
Potential Signs of Abuse

- Shows sudden changes in behavior or performance
- Displays overt sexualized behavior or exhibits sexual knowledge that is inconsistent with their age
- Has not received medical attention for a physical injury that has been brought to the parents’ attention
- Has learning problems that cannot be attributed to specific physical or psychological causes
- Is always watchful, as though preparing for something to bad to happen
- Is overly compliant, an overachiever, or too responsible
- Comes early, stays late, and does not want to go home
- Seems frightened of the parents/protests or cries when it is time to go home
- Shrinks at the approach of adults
- Reports injury by a parent or another adult caregiver
WARNING:
The following slide depicts photographic images of actual injuries and may be disturbing for some individuals.
Recognizing Child Abuse

Physical Signs of Abuse

• Has unexplained burns, bites, bruises, broken bones or black eyes

• Has bruises or marks in non-prominent, “fleshy” areas of the body

• Has fading bruises or other marks noticeable after an absence from the program
Recognizing Child Neglect

Potential Signs of Child Neglect

- Begs or steals food or money. May stockpile food
- Lacks needed medical or dental care; hygiene problems and body odor
- Lacks age appropriate adult supervision
- Lacks clothing appropriate for the weather
- Reports family violence in the home
- Reports use of illegal substances or excessive use of alcohol by parents or caregivers
- Abuses alcohol or other drugs
- States there is no one at home to provide care
- Malnourished. Very low body weight/height for age
- Often tired, sleepy listless
Recognizing Emotional Abuse

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Physical Indicators</th>
<th>Behavioral Indicators</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Developmental delays</td>
<td>• Overly compliant or defensive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Wetting bed, pants</td>
<td>• Extremely emotional, aggressive, withdrawn, anxious/anxiety disorders, phobias,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Speech disorders</td>
<td>sleep disorders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Medical issues</td>
<td>• Destructive or anti-social behaviors</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Inappropriate behavior for age</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Suicidal thoughts and behaviors</td>
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</table>
Recognizing Sexual Abuse

Physical Indicators

• Difficulty in walking or sitting
• Torn, stained, or bloody underclothing
• Pain or itching in genital area
• Bruises or bleeding in external genitalia, vaginal or anal areas
• Venereal disease, especially in pre-teens
• Pregnancy

Behavioral Indicators

• Unwilling to change in front of others or refusing to participate in physical activities (such as swimming)
• Withdrawn, depressed, anxious, aggression, fantasy or infantile behavior
• Bizarre, sophisticated or unusual sexual behavior or knowledge
• Poor peer relationships
• Delinquent or run away
• Reports sexual assault by a caregiver
Title IX – Protection from Discrimination based on Sex and Sexual Harassment

What You Need to Know

In addition to child abuse and crimes against children reporting, all persons hosting minors on campus, whether it is a program, event or camp, are required to report certain violations under Title IX. The Title IX Amendment protects youth from any form of discrimination based on sex including sexual harassment.
Title IX – Protection from Discrimination based on Sex and Sexual Harassment

Title IX protects youth from any form of Discrimination based on the following:

- Age
- Color
- Ability or Disability
- Sex (including pregnancy)
- Gender
- Gender Identity
- Gender Expression
- Genetic Information
- National Origin
- Political Affiliation
- Race
- Religion
- Sexual Orientation
- Veteran Status

UNC
INSTITUTIONAL INTEGRITY AND RISK MANAGEMENT
Protection of Minors on Campus
Title IX – Protection from Discrimination based on Sex and Sexual Harassment

Title IX protects youth from any form of Sexual Harassment based on the following:

- “This for That” sexual requests
- Persistent, unwanted sexual advances
- Sexual Assault
- Severe, objectively offensive sexual behavior to make a reasonable person want to leave a program, event, or activity
- Stalking
- Rape
The Jeanne Clery Act – A Consumer Protection Law that provides transparency around campus crime policy and statistics.

What You Need to Know

In addition to Title IX reporting, all persons hosting minors on campus, whether it is a program, event or camp are required to report certain violations under the Clery Act. The Clery Act requires all Colleges and Universities to report campus crime data, provide support for victims of violence, and outline the policies and procedures that are in place to foster campus safety.
The Jeanne Clery Act – A Consumer Protection Law that provides transparency around campus crime policy and statistics.

Crimes that would be reported under the Clery Act

- Homicide: Murder and non-negligent manslaughter
- Negligent manslaughter
- Robbery
- Aggravated Assault
- Burglary
- Motor Vehicle Theft
- Arson
- Liquor Law Violation (not DUI)
- Drug Law Violation
- Weapon Law Violation
- Hate Crime
- Larceny-Theft
- Simple Assault
- Intimidation
- Property Damage
- Domestic Violence
- Dating Violence
- Stalking Incidents
- Sexual Assault
- Rape
Additional Information

Child Welfare Information Gateway

For more information and resources on Child Abuse and Neglect visit U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Children’s Bureau.
Definitions Under NC G.S. 14-318.6
(Reporting to Law Enforcement)

**Serious Bodily Injury**
- Bodily injury that creates a substantial risk of death or that causes serious permanent disfigurement, coma, a permanent or protracted condition that causes extreme pain, or permanent or protracted loss or impairment of the function of any bodily member or organ, or that results in prolonged hospitalization.

**Serious Physical Injury**
- Physical injury that causes great pain and suffering. The term includes serious mental injury.
Sexually violent offenses

- An offense committed against a juvenile that is sexually violent offense as defined in G.S. 14-208.6(5). This term also includes the following: an attempt, solicitation, or conspiracy to commit any of these offenses; aiding, and abetting any of these offenses. The following are “sexually violent offenses” pursuant to G.S. 14-208.6(5) (including the solicitation and aiding and abetting).
Definitions Under NC G.S. 14-318.6 (Reporting to Law Enforcement)

**Violent offenses**

- Any offense that inflicts upon the juvenile serious bodily injury or serious physical injury by other than accidental means. This term also includes the following: an attempt, solicitation, or conspiracy to commit any of these offenses; aiding and abetting any of these offenses.
Definitions Under NC G.S. 14-318.6 (Reporting to Law Enforcement)

Misdemeanor child abuse
- Occurs when a parent or a person providing care or supervision to a child who is 15 or younger inflicts or allows to be inflicted physical injury to the child by nonaccidental means or creates or allows to be created substantial risk of physical injury to the child by nonaccidental means.
Making a Report

Before making a report, you do not need to conduct your own investigation or be certain that mistreatment has occurred.

Make a report if…
- You know that a minor is suffering abuse or neglect or is a victim of a crime.
- You suspect that a minor is suffering abuse or neglect or is a victim of a crime.

Make a report regardless…
- Of whom the suspected culprit may be – a family member, teacher, religious leader, student, or coach, well-respected or not.
- Of where the abuse or neglect may be occurring, for example in the home or at UNC.
Who to make a report to?

- All suspected incidents of Child Abuse, Neglect or Violent Offense must be reported immediately to the UNC-CH PD, regardless of the residence of the Minor involved or the suspected perpetrator.

- If the child requires immediate medical services call 911.

UNC-Chapel Hill
Police Department
📞 919-962-8100 (Non-emergency) or
📞 911 (Emergency Line)

Office of the Protection of Minors
📞 919-843-8995
✉️ protectionofmintors@unc.edu
Who to make a report to?

• The reporting county in Chapel Hill is Orange County. You can report abuse or neglect by calling Orange County Child Protective Services (CPS).

• A directory of all 100 county DSS can be found on the Local DSS Directory.

• If the child requires immediate medical services call 911.

Orange County Child Protective Services

📞 919-245-2818 (Intake Line) or
📞 919-732-8181 (Emergency Line)

Office of the Protection of Minors

📞 919-843-8995
📧 protectionofminors@unc.edu
Who to make a report to?

All suspected instances of a Title IX violation must be reported. If a crime was committed or you suspect that a crime is being committed, contact the UNC-Chapel Hill Police Department.

UNC-Chapel Hill Police Department
📞 919-962-8100 (Non-emergency) or 911 (Emergency Line)

 UNC-Chapel Hill
Title IX Coordinator
📞 919-966-3576
🌐 Equal Opportunity & Compliance Office

Office of the
Protection of Minors
📞 919-843-8995
🌐 Protection of Minors on Campus – Campus Safety (unc.edu)
All suspected instances of a Clery Act crime must be reported. If a crime was committed or you suspect that a crime is being committed, contact the UNC-Chapel Hill Police Department.

UNC-Chapel Hill
Police Department
📞 919-962-8100 (Non-emergency) or
📞 911 (Emergency Line)

UNC-Chapel Hill
Clery Act Coordinator
📞 919-962-8100
🌐 Clery Act UNC- Police

Office of the
Protection of Minors
📞 919-843-8995
🌐 Protection of Minors on Campus –
Campus Safety (unc.edu)
Who to make a report to? (continued)

In addition, the reporting party may have to notify one of the following offices. For instances involving:

**Alleged sexual misconduct, harassment or assault contact:**
- UNC-Chapel Hill
- Equal Opportunity and Compliance (EOC) Office
  📞 (919) 966-3576

**Any other forms of alleged inappropriate behavior or misconduct contact:**
- UNC-Chapel Hill
- Employee and Management Relations Office
  📞 (919) 843-3444
Who to make a report to? (continued)

In addition, the reporting party may have to notify the US Center for SafeSport for instances involving:

**Suspicions of abuse within organizations governed by a “National Governing Body” or “Paralympic Sports Organization”**.

US Center for SafeSport

Report a Concern
Immediate Risk of Harm

• If you encounter a situation in which a minor is at immediate risk of harm or the victim of a criminal act, please contact the UNC Police or the appropriate Police Department immediately by Dialing 911.

• The UNC Police or the appropriate Police Department will make a final determination as to whether a matter merits further investigation. University Community Members must not attempt to make such judgments independently of law enforcement.

• Reporting to University officials does not relieve the obligation of a University Community Member to also make a report directly to law enforcement in the event the minor is at immediate risk.
Resources

- American Camp Association
- Child Welfare Information Gateway
- North Carolina Division of Social Services
- Prevent Child Abuse North Carolina
- US Center for SafeSport
Frequently Asked Questions

Q: **Who is mandated to report abuse or neglect of a minor?**

   A: Both as a matter of University Policy and North Carolina State Law, any member of the University Community, including students, who reasonably suspects that a minor has been abused or neglected by a parent, guardian, caregiver, or staff member or is the victim of a violent offense, has an absolute obligation to report that suspicion to the appropriate County Department of Social Services.

Q: **Am I protected if I make a report?**

   A: North Carolina law provides that anyone who makes a report in good faith or who participates in an investigation by the Department of Social Services will be protected from any criminal or civil liability that might arise from the individual's report or participation. University policy prohibits retaliation against anyone who makes a good faith report of abuse or neglect with regard to the terms and conditions of University employment or educational activities.

Q: **What if I do not make a report?**

   A: North Carolina law makes it illegal to not report certain crimes against children. Any person or institution that has reason to suspect that a child is abused, neglected or dependent, or died as the result of maltreatment, or is the victim of a violent offense, you must report it. Failure to Report Gen. Stat. § 7B-301 Any person or institution who knowingly or wantonly fails to report the abuse as required, or who knowingly or wantonly prevents another person from making a report as required, is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

**Protection of Minors on Campus**

**UNC**
Certification

Instructions

1. Click on the link below to certify that you have completed this training:

   https://unc.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bpx2nhHO5E803Vb

2. Enter your email when requested to receive a notice of completion to retain for your records.