

CAL RIPKEN, SR. FOUNDATION

REPORTING

ABUSE

If you suspect that your child or a child in your care has been sexually abused, you should immediately contact your local law enforcement agency. The rules on reporting abuse varies by state. Every organization should be aware of the laws that govern their state and should report any findings accordingly.

The Childhelp National Child Abuse Hotline provides professional crisis counselors who can offer a variety of services, including emotional support for abuse survivors and information about how to report known or suspected abuse. They can be reached at (800) 4-A-CHILD (1-800-422-4453) or by going to www.childhelp.org/pages/hotline.

Individuals must immediately report any and all incidents, suspected incidents, or allegations of molestation or abuse in accordance with the governing state law. Individuals will immediately report any and all incidents, suspected incidents, or allegations of molestation or abuse to the proper local authorities **and** the Compliance Officer at their organization. It is not the responsibility of the individual to decide if an incident is valid, truthful, or worth reporting. This determination will be made by local authorities.

The Compliance Officer will have a form that **MUST** be filled in the event an incident is reported or occurs. The report will be submitted to senior staff and all appropriate authorities will be contacted. This form should be completed and submitted to the Compliance Officer immediately and no more than 24 hours after the incident occurs or is brought to the attention of the Individual.

After making a report to law enforcement, contact one of the organizations below:

- **THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR MISSING & EXPLOITED CHILDREN'S CYBERTIPLINE** accepts reports of child sexual abuse and assists professionals seeking resources to help them in their missing and sexually exploited child cases. Available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
 - Make a report: Call 1-800-THE-LOST (1-800-843-5678) or visit www.cybertipline.com.
- **STOP IT NOW!**'s confidential, national prevention Helpline assists callers with questions or concerns about child sexual abuse.
 - Learn more about it: www.stopitnow.org/help#contact.
 - Get support: Call 1-888-PREVENT (1-888-773-8368) or submit an email.

Many communities also have local children's advocacy centers (CACs) that offer coordinated support and services to victims of child abuse (including sexual abuse). To find a CAC in your area, visit the website of the National Children's Advocacy Center, www.nationalcac.org.



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