

## WARNING SIGNS

There are specific warning signs you can't ignore.  
YOU may be the only chance for a child to reach safety.

You are legally required to REPORT if you know or reasonably suspect that a child has been the victim of child abuse, neglect or abandonment.

### STEPS

1. CALL (707) 565-4304 ASAP (24/7).
2. SUBMIT a written report within 36 hours. COMPLETE the online form at [ag.ca.gov/childabuse/pdf/ss\\_8572.pdf](http://ag.ca.gov/childabuse/pdf/ss_8572.pdf). PRINT and FAX to (707) 565-4324.

### Critical Signs of Neglect

- Clothes are inappropriate for weather, soiled, torn or the wrong size.
- Listlessness, low energy or frequent fatigue.
- Poor dental hygiene, or patterns of chronic illness or chronic absence.
- Always hungry, shows up with little food, hoards, steals or begs for food.
- Talk of being left alone.
- Parent shows up intoxicated or drives with child while intoxicated.

### Critical Signs of Physical Abuse

- Bruises, bites, bone fractures, cuts, welts or burns in areas not commonly injured during physical play.
- The story of the injury doesn't align with the injury, or the story changes.
- Injuries possibly patterned or excessive.
- There is a delay between the time of injury and medical care.

### Critical Signs of Sexual Abuse

- Sexually explicit drawings or talk about sexual knowledge beyond child's developmental stage.
- Demonstrating of sexual acts on toys or other children.
- Physical injury or sexually transmitted infection (STI).

### Critical Signs of Emotional Abuse

- Severe anxiety, depression, hyperactivity or low self-esteem.
- Self-injury, suicidal attempts or unusual aggression.
- Talk of unusual forms of discipline that rely on humiliation, fear or intimidation.
- Talk of witnessing recurring domestic violence or violence resulting in injury.