

## Great Falls – Cascade County - Montana

# COMMUNITY RESOURCES FOR RESPONDING TO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

### REPORT ABUSE AT 866-820-5437 or 911

You are not required to provide proof of the abuse. Anyone who makes a good faith report, based on reasonable grounds, is immune from prosecution. Mandated reporters, who report in good faith, are protected by law, even if the report is unfounded.

### IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Child and Family Services Hotline	866-826 -5437
USA National Child Abuse Hotline	800-422-4453
Great Falls Police Department	406-727-7688
Cascade County Sheriff's Office	406-454-6978
Center for Missing/Exploited Children	800-843-5678
Darkness to Light Helpline	866-367-5444

### VICTIM ADVOCACY RESOURCES

Victim-Witness Assistance Svcs (vwas.org)	406-315-1111
YWCA Great Falls (ywcagreatfalls.org)	406-452-1315
CASA-CAN (volunteergreatfalls.org)	406-454-6738

### SEXUAL ASSAULT MEDICAL EVALUATION REOURCES

Benefis Emergency Department	406-455-5200
If assault occurred within last 72 hours	
Great Falls Clinic	Nancy Maynard MD 406-454-2171
	Nichole White CPNP 406-268-1600

### RESOURCES FOR HEALING

Cascade County Children's Advocacy Center	406-268-3756
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### ONLINE RESOURCES

darkness2light.org	missingkids.com/cybertipline
trauma-pages.com	stopitnow.com

Report exactly what  
the child tells you,  
as soon as possible

### CALL

Montana Child  
Abuse Hotline  
866-820-5437

### AND

Great Falls Police  
Department  
406-727-7688 Ext 5

### OR

Cascade County  
Sheriff's Office  
406-454-6978

### SEX SLAVERY and HUMAN TRAFFICKING RESOURCES

North Central Montana  
Human Trafficking and  
MMIP Task Force  
833-406-7867 or

TEXT  
406-799-8927

National Human Trafficking  
Resource Center

TEXT "BEFREE"  
to 233733

# MANDATED REPORTING

## IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO REPORT IT

### MCA 41-3-201 thru 209 Reporting Child Abuse (excerpt)

Persons responsible for a child's welfare: child's parent, guardian, foster parent, an adult who resides in the same home in which the child resides, persons providing care in a day-care facility, employee of a public or private residential institution, facility, home, or agency, or any other person responsible for the child's welfare...

**MANDATORY REPORTERS:** When professionals and officials listed...know or have reasonable cause to suspect...that a child is abused or neglected...they shall report the matter promptly.

Physician, resident, intern, member of hospital staff engaged in the admission, examination, care, or treatment of child, nurse, osteopath, chiropractor, podiatrist, medical examiner, coroner, dentist, optometrist, any...health or mental health professional, religious healers, school teachers, other school officials, employees who work during regular school hours, social worker, operator or employee of any registered or licensed day-care or substitute care facility, staff of a resource and referral grant program organized under 52-2-711 or of a child and adult food care program, an operator or employee of a child-care facility, foster care, residential, or institutional worker, peace officer or other law enforcement official, member of the clergy, guardian ad litem or a court-appointed advocate..., employee of an entity that provides direct services to children.

**SCHOOL STAFF** - Reporting concerns to another school official does not satisfy the reporting requirement. School personnel must report directly to the Child and Family Services Division Hotline. Where there is a conflict between state law and a school's reporting procedures, state law prevails.

Thousands of children are alive and safe today because a principal, teacher, or some other caring adult was sensitive to a child's behavior and acted on that information by filing a report.

Reporting, by itself, does not guarantee a child will be protected from continued abuse; but the failure to report adds yet another layer of betrayal to the suffering of an already betrayed child.

**REPORT CHILD SEX ABUSE AT 866-826-5437**

## WHO IS THE DANDELION FOUNDATION?

### 501(c)3 Charitable organization dedicated to ending all child abuse

The Dandelion Foundation is focused on providing community level prevention efforts to stem the increasing number of children who experience and are exposed to abuse, neglect and violence in their homes.

Members of the Board of Directors work to organize community education and awareness events throughout the year. Since the beginning, the Dandelion Foundation has been a key partner in the planning and financial support of No More Violence Week. Every Spring this event brings local, state, and national level trainers to the Cascade County community to provide multi-sectoral training on prevention and intervention of violence.

In 2018, The Dandelion Foundation was successful in securing funds to aid in the support of the Cascade County Children's Advocacy Center (CCCAC). The CCCAC provides a safe and secure environment for children and families who are in the midst of a traumatic experience related to abuse or neglect. The child/family receives appropriate professional referral and support in a safe centralized environment.

The Foundation is working on exciting new projects, like the Darkness to Light training. Please show your support and follow the progress at [DandelionFoundation.Org](http://DandelionFoundation.Org), on Facebook, or Instagram. #notjustaweedbutawish