

MALTREATMENT OF MINORS MANDATED REPORTING




MN Child Welfare Training Academy/ University of Minnesota

At the completion of this training, you will be able to:

1. Identify roles that are mandated to report.
2. Summarize responsibilities of mandated reporters.
3. Associate racial disparities with the decisions mandated reporters make.
4. Explore resources to support children and families.
5. Identify potential indicators of maltreatment.
6. Apply critical thinking skills with the P.A.S.S. tool to make a decision on supporting or reporting.
7. Identify the information to be included in a report.

**MN DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN
SERVICES
MANDATED REPORTER
TRAINING**



*As a mandated reporter,
you are responsible for
understanding this
information and how it
pertains to you as an
employee of Arrowhead
Head Start*

Mandated Reporting

- Mandated Reporters are legally required to make reports if there is suspicion of maltreatment.
- Despite our best intentions and our belief, mandated reporters experience challenging circumstances that can yield decisions that negatively impact families and children. Reporting requires a professional to utilize critical thinking to look beyond their perceived legal and ethical obligations to support families.
- Pausing to apply critical thinking helps to incorporate all that we know about bias, trauma, and racial disproportionality in child welfare
- Mandated Reporters play an integral role in ensuring protection for children.

Brief Overview Video ~ Click Link Below

<https://cloud.swivl.com/v/6262f6dbb509851a964d9f57b221c7c5>

Who Qualifies As A Mandated Reporter & Their Role ~ Click Link Below

<https://cloud.swivl.com/v/89e0890636a29df8f1b0420879fcdeb4>

An acronym to help mandated reporters
utilize critical thinking in their reporting
decision making process is

P.A.S.S.

Pause - Take a moment to slow down before
taking any further action.

Analyze - What information suggests there is a
reason to believe a child has been
maltreated?

Self Reflect - Ask yourself questions to check
your bias.

Support or Report - Determine if supportive
resources are needed or report if required.

Responsibilities of Mandated Reporters ~ Click Link Below

[HTTPS://CLOUD.SWIVL.COM/V/7E60F07FB598CBAF32D4
958898C8C13C](https://cloud.swivl.com/v/7E60F07FB598CBAF32D4958898C8C13C)

Legal Considerations

When To Report ~ Click Link Below

[HTTPS://CLOUD.SWIVL.COM/V/B9F91CFA592E13E04C8FD4A2BDAC353A](https://cloud.swivl.com/v/B9F91CFA592E13E04C8FD4A2BDAC353A)

Protection For Reporters ~ Click Link Below

[HTTPS://CLOUD.SWIVL.COM/V/901B976B2708FE7AE779CBFC3358307F](https://cloud.swivl.com/v/901B976B2708FE7AE779CBFC3358307F)



WHERE TO REPORT

SOCIAL SERVICES

REPORTS OF CHILD MALTREATMENT
ARE TO BE MADE IF IN THE

- FAMILY HOME
- RELATIVE HOME
- FAMILY CHILD CARE
- CHILD FOSTER CARE

COOK COUNTY

218-387-3620

LAKE COUNTY

218-834-8400

ST. LOUIS COUNTY

218-726-2012 OR 218-471-7128 (VA)

DEPT. OF HUMAN SERVICES

REPORTS OF CHILD MALTREATMENT
ARE TO BE MADE IF IN THE

- LICENSED FACILITIES (HEAD START
CLASSROOMS BY ANY STAFF)
- DHS, LICENSING DIVISION 651-431-6600

LAW ENFORCEMENT

REPORTS OF CHILD SAFETY
EMERGENCIES SHOULD BE MADE
DIRECTLY TO LOCAL LAW
ENFORCEMENT OR 911 FOR IMMEDIATE
INTERVENTION.

****Mandated Reporters Must Report Abuse and Neglect. Failure to report could result in a Misdemeanor offense****

REPORTING & DOCUMENTATION

- BE PROFESSIONAL.
- ONLY REPORT WHAT YOU KNOW.
- THE DESCRIPTION OF THE REPORT SHOULD BE CLEAR.
- FACTS, KNOWLEDGE, INFERENCES AND ASSUMPTIONS SHOULD BE CAREFULLY DOCUMENTED.
- USE OBJECTIVE DESCRIPTIONS AND QUOTES PRECISELY.
- OPINIONS ARE TO NEVER BE DOCUMENTED AND REPORTED.

****Remember****

- MN Statute requires that persons verbally report any suspected child abuse or neglect immediately, which means within 24 hours
- The mandated reporter must send a written maltreatment report to Social Services within 72 hours.
 - a. In the event the county **does have** a secured online form, the mandated reporter will fill it out and submit within 72 hours.
 - b. In the event the county **does not** have a secure online form or the form is unavailable, the mandated reporter will fill out Arrowhead Head Start's "Child Maltreatment Report". The mandated reporter will mail or hand deliver the form to Social Services within 72 hours.

Bias & Racial Disparities



THOUGHTS TO REMEMBER...

Being culturally responsive is important as a mandated reporter. This means having cultural context in a situation - an understanding of the norms, values, and traditions that inform what we hear or observe and acknowledging that what one observes may not align with their own cultural norms, values, or traditions.

Before making a report, self-reflect by asking yourself "Am I learning about maltreatment or could this be a cultural difference in parental style?" or, "Would I be making this report if the child identified as part of a different racial or cultural group, or with one similar to my own?"



Bias & Mandated Reporting ~ Click Link Below

[HTTPS://CLOUD.SWIVL.COM/V/DE281C47AABA8247BF6909263F3980D6](https://cloud.swivl.com/v/de281c47aaba8247bf6909263f3980d6)

Disparities in Minnesota ~ Click Link Below

[HTTPS://CLOUD.SWIVL.COM/V/D739A1FF6041819C4D58E99A21532F1D](https://cloud.swivl.com/v/d739a1ff6041819c4d58e99a21532f1d)

When Resources Are Appropriate ~ Click Link Below

<https://cloud.swivl.com/v/8da32e4cbc817d784625f56083626197>



~ Click Link Below

Supportive Resources for Families Links to an external site.

SUPPORTIVE RESOURCES

Supportive resources are appropriate for situations in which maltreatment is not occurring, and a family could use some help with family, economic, social, or medical crises.

Having a basic understanding of local, regional, and state-wide resources will ensure you are ready to provide families with supportive resources.



CASE STUDY

Report or Support Eleanor ~ Click Link Below

**[HTTPS://CLOUD.SWIVL.COM/V/04E128A1F797FBB853
BAC452344E6C78](https://cloud.swivl.com/v/04e128a1f797fbb853b4c452344e6c78)**

WHAT IS CONSIDERED ABUSE & NEGLECT IN MINNESOTA

****Neglect is the most common form of maltreatment***

Neglect is usually a failure of a child's caregiver to:

- Provide needed food, clothing, shelter, medical or mental health care, education or appropriate supervision.
- Protect a child from conditions or actions that endanger the child
- Take steps to ensure that a child is educated as required by law.

The following may also be considered neglect:

- Exposing a child to certain drugs during pregnancy
- Causing emotional harm to the child

Physical Abuse

- Is when a caregiver causes any physical injury, or threatens harm or substantial injury, on a child other than by accident. Physical abuse can range from minor bruises to severe internal injuries and death.

Mental Injury

- Is harm to a child's psychological capacity or emotional stability evidenced by an observable and substantial impairment of a child's functioning.

Sexual Abuse

- Is when a child is a victim of a criminal sexual act or threatened act committed by:
 - A person responsible for a child's care
 - A person who has a significant relationship to a child
 - A person in a position of authority.

NEGLECT & POVERTY

Poverty is a risk factor for neglect, but poverty does not equate to neglect. Parents may find it more challenging to meet specific needs of a child due to a lack of income. Unfortunately, observed indicators of neglect may be signs of poverty.

Lack of weather- appropriate clothing- May be due to insufficient economic and community resources.	Lack of adequate supervision- May stem from parents' need to work or meet another commitment without available or affordable childcare.	Lack of Medical or dental care- May stem from lack of access to transportation, adequate health care coverage, or insufficient funds to pay for copays or treatment.
Unwashed clothing & poor hygiene- May stem from lack of access to, or inability to afford hygiene products or laundry services.	Lack of consistent growth- May stem from food insecurity, which could cause issues with development.	

Neglect can be very subjective and making assumptions about a circumstance could put a family in the Child Welfare system when they could be more appropriately connected to supportive resources. If possible, Mandated Reporters should use their role to support families in need of help in dealing with poverty.

Individual Bias & Mandated Reporting

How Can Bias Affect the Mandated Reporter ~ Click Link Below

- **[HTTPS://CLOUD.SWIVL.COM/V/1DA2A633BA88C44D0B60E946374EE4A5](https://cloud.swivl.com/v/1DA2A633BA88C44D0B60E946374EE4A5)**

Note to Remember:

Carefully consider your own implicit or explicit bias when working with or observing a child or family. Part of this consideration is accepting the fact that you're a human being, and it isn't possible to be fully objective at all times. Instead, your goal is to be aware of when you are being subjective, or bringing your own bias into how you assess a potential reporting situation.

ARROWHEAD HEAD START POLICY

Review the policy on the AEOA Website:

**Steps
to
follow**

AEOA website

Services

Head Start & Early Head Start

Staff Resources

Policies and Procedures

Early Childhood Development & Health Services

Safety

Maltreatment of Minors Mandated Reporting Policy

COMPLETE KNOWLEDGE CHECK

REPORTING THE MALTREATMENT OF MINORS



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