Understand Child Abuse

There are four types of child abuse:

- Physical
- Emotional
- Neglect
- Sexual

The lifetime cost for each victim of non-fatal child abuse is approximately $210,000 which is comparable to other costly health conditions, such as stroke or type 2 diabetes.

Watch for Symptoms

- Always believe a child when they are talking about abuse
- Let the child know that the abuse is not their fault
- Tell the child they are smart and brave for disclosing
- Speak with the child in a private non-isolated place
- Let the child do the talking
- Use open ended questions such as “Tell me more about that”
- Don’t express shock or panic
- Determine the child’s immediate need for safety and report the abuse

Report Child Abuse

Utah Child Protective Services (CPS) 1-855-323-3237

You will need information such as the child’s name, address, location, who the child’s siblings and parents are, and what your suspicion is. If the child is in immediate danger call law enforcement.

Utah’s “Duty to Report” law requires all citizens age 18 and older to report suspected abuse and neglect.

You have the option to report anonymously.

Know Your Role

- Continue to support the children you work with who have been abused
- Provide structure and stability for these children
- Be a good role model for the children you work with
- Be aware of your school or workplace policy regarding interactions with youth

Preventing and ending child abuse is everyone’s responsibility and is crucial to building a safe, healthy, and strong community.