

# Let's All Be on the Front Line in Keeping Our Children Safe

## REPORTING ABUSE DURING COVID-19

With schools, many daycares and most extra-curricular activities being closed due to COVID-19, we need you now more than ever to help keep our children safe. As Floridians, we all have the responsibility to report any suspicion or knowledge of abuse or neglect (39.201 F.S.). By making a report, you are not only ensuring the child's safety, you are also providing help and support to the family.

### You May Be the Only Person to Act.

**If something does not look safe, sound safe or feel safe – Report.**

"Abuse" means any willful act or threatened act that results in any physical, mental, or sexual abuse, injury, or harm that causes or is likely to cause the child's physical, mental, or emotional health to be significantly impaired. Within the context of the definition of "harm," the term "neglects the child" means that the parent or other person responsible for the child's welfare fails to supply the child with adequate food, clothing, shelter, or health care, although financially able to do so or although offered financial or other means to do so. (F.S. 39.01)

### How to Report Abuse

Be prepared to provide specific descriptions of the incident(s) or the circumstances contributing to the risk of harm.

**Call**

**800-962-2873**

**Florida Relay 711**

**TTY: 800-955-8771**

**Report Online**

**<https://reportabuse.dcf.state.fl.us>**

