

PYRAMID LAKE PAIUTE TRIBE

REFERENCE FOR REPORTING SUSPECTED CHID ABUSE

As an employee who has daily contact with children, you are in a key position to recognize indicators of child abuse and request help and services for his/her family.

Mandated Reporters – Persons engaged in a professional capacity or activity such as a teacher or persons employed in a school, law enforcement, social services, and the medical field must immediately report suspicions of child abuse or neglect that may have occurred both within and outside of the work setting.

Required Reporting – 18 CFR 1169. Reporting of Child Abuse, **requires** that educational, medical, mental health, child care, social services, and law enforcement personnel *immediately* report child abuse by contacting their local law enforcement agency or social services agency who has jurisdiction for investigating such reports or by calling the Bureau of Indian Affairs – **Child Abuse Hotline @ 1-800-633-5155**

Protection of the Child – Every effort to protect the child or obtain needed medical attention should be made promptly.

Additional Information – Employees reporting in good faith are immune from civil and criminal liability.

Refer any questions or concerns to your local law enforcement point of contact or social service/child protection service agency.

Local Law Enforcement Contact: Pyramid Lake Police Department

Telephone: (775) 574-1014 or 574-0444

Child Protection Services Contact: Pyramid Lake Social Services

Telephone: (775) 574-1047

I have read and understand the above Mandated Reporters requirement, and understand who needs to be contacted in the event of a suspected child abuse case.

Employee Signature

Date

RECOGNIZING CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Physical Indicators

Physical Abuse

- Unexplained and multiple bruises on face, torso, back, buttocks, thighs, in various stages of healing
- Bruises/welts resembling instrument used i.e., belt cord, stick.
- Sign of injury that is not consistent with the type of injury; and/or refuses to explain an injury.
- Injuries appear clustered, arranged, symmetrically or appearing after absence, weekend, etc.

Emotional Abuse

- Failure to thrive
- Eating and speech disorders sleep disturbances, wetting by school age child.

Neglect

- Consistent hunger, poor hygiene
- Unattended physical problems or medical needs
- Consistent lack of supervision
- Abandonment

Sexual Abuse

- Difficulty in walking or sitting
- Torn, stained, or bloody underclothing
- Pain or itching in the genital area
- Sexually transmitted diseases or pregnancy (pre-teens)
- Bruises or bleeding in the external genital area

The indicators identified on this page are **not all inclusive**. Any incident in which a child is harmed or may be harmed must be reported.

Behavioral Indicators

- Reports injury by caretaker
- Uncomfortable with physical contact
- Complains of soreness or moves uncomfortably
- Afraid to go home
- Chronic runaway (adolescents)
- Behavior extremes (withdrawn, aggressive)
- Apprehensive when other children cry

- Habit disorders, such as head banging, biting, kicking, thumb sucking in older child
- Behavioral extremes; self-destructive
- Complaints of illness which cannot be medically explained.

- Reports no caretaker at home
- Begs, steals food
- Frequently absent or tardy
- Constant fatigue, listlessness, or falling asleep in class.
- Extended stays at school (early arrival and late departure)
- Shunned by peers.

- Reports Sexual Abuse
- Highly sexualized play, excessive seductiveness
- Detailed, age inappropriate understanding of sexual behavior
- Chronic runaway, suicide attempts (adolescents)
- Sudden, noticeable behavior changes

Any combination or pattern of indicators should alert you to the **possibility** of maltreatment. Indicators should be considered together with the explanation provided, the child's developmental and physical capabilities, and behavior changes.