

MANDATORY REPORTING

Who is a
Mandatory
Reporter?

When Is
Reporting
Required?

Can the Church help
prevent Child Abuse?



Mandatory Reporting

What is a Mandatory Reporter?

A Mandatory reporter is defined as a professional who is obligated by law to report known or suspected incidents of child abuse and/or neglect. Mandatory reporters are part of the safety net that protects children and youth and have the ability to provide lifesaving help to child victims in our community.

Who is a Mandatory Reporter?

In the State of Colorado, as well as other states including Utah, Clergy are listed as mandatory reporters. [Thirty-one of the forty-two states in which clergy are mandatory reporters have expressly adopted limited exceptions for penitential communications made to clergy.](#) Find additional professions listed on the Mandatory Reporting list by [clicking here.](#)

When is a Report Required?

A report is required when a mandatory reporter **has reasonable cause to know or suspect** that a child has been subjected to abuse or neglect or has observed the child being subjected to circumstances or conditions that would reasonably result in abuse or neglect.

What are some ways that the church can help prevent Child Abuse?

1. Develop a child safety program and follow it!
 - Sexual Misconduct and Behavior Policies
 - Criminal Background Checks
 - Applications and References
 - Training of Staff, Volunteers, Adults and Children
2. Work toward creating a culture of truth and action
 - Reporting - Both Internal and External
 - Internal Investigations
 - Organizational Culture
 - Outreach to Victims and Healing Responses
 - Zero Tolerance



Find more details about preventing Child Abuse in the church [here.](#)