



Have a hand in protecting children.

Mandated Reporters' Resource Guide

Contact the Children's Protective Services Program Office for questions at (517) 335-3704.

Miscellaneous Issues

Head Lice Issues

An allegation of neglect based solely on a child having head lice is not appropriate for a CPS investigation. This condition could arise in any number of ways and is not, in and of itself, an indicator of neglect.

Therapy Issues

There are times when a child's behavior is a concern and may need further evaluation by a medical professional. If mandated reporters determine psychological help may be needed for a child, they should provide that information to the parent. It is up to the parent and/or guardian to make an appropriate decision for their child.

Medical Issues

- Immunizations - CPS is not authorized to investigate complaints that allege parents are failing or refusing to obtain immunizations for their children. The Michigan Public Health Code provides for exceptions to the immunization requirements.
- Medication - CPS is not responsible for investigating complaints that allege parents are failing or refusing to provide their children with psychotropic medication such as Ritalin.

School Truants and Runaways

Routine complaints on school truants and runaways are not appropriate for CPS. Truancy and running away are not in themselves synonymous with child abuse or neglect.

Multiple Allegations of Chronic Abuse and/or Neglect Suspected

If a mandated reporter reports a suspicion of child abuse/neglect **and** then a new allegation occurs, the mandated reporter must make another verbal and written report of suspected abuse and/or neglect to DHS. It is important to treat each suspected incident of abuse and/or neglect independently as it occurs. Each allegation of suspected child abuse and/or neglect could uncover patterns the CPS investigator would analyze during the intake and investigation process.

Making the Report

- Do not wait until the morning to call Children's Protective Services when the allegations are that the caretaker left the children alone in the middle of the night. The caretaker will usually be back home and it will be difficult to prove. Call when the children are still alone.
- Do not wait a week to report and say that there was no food in the home last week. There may be food in the home now and it will be difficult to prove. Call as soon as you can.
- Children's Protective Services is available and willing to investigate allegations of abuse and neglect, however, it is important that the reporting person provides enough information and details to warrant an investigation.



State of Michigan
Department of Human Services

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