

## WHO ARE “MANDATED REPORTERS” OF ABUSE OR NEGLECT?

Mandated reporters include clergy, school employees, mental health practitioners, doctors, coaches, etc. **However, the Code of Conduct for the Archdiocese states that all Church Workers of the Archdiocese are mandatory reporters of abuse and neglect!** Reporting is critical. Not only is it required by law, but it is often the first step in our criminal justice system that enables law enforcement to stop the abuse and prosecute those responsible.

## WHAT IS CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT?

Child(ren) or a Minor is generally understood under civil law to be a person under 18 years of age.

**Child Abuse** is any conduct that causes or attempts to cause an injury to a child's life or health; permits a child to be unreasonably placed in a situation that poses a threat of injury to the child's life or health; or engages in a continued pattern of conduct that results in malnourishment, lack of proper medical care, cruel punishment, mistreatment, or an accumulation of injuries to the child. Child abuse includes neglect and emotional abuse.

**Child Pornography** is a form of child sexual exploitation, and is defined under federal law as any visual depiction of sexually explicit conduct involving a minor. Images of Child Pornography are also referred to as child sexual abuse images. Federal law prohibits the production, distribution, importation, reception, or possession of any image of child pornography. A violation of federal child pornography law is a serious crime, and convicted offenders face severe statutory penalties.

**Child Sexual Assault** includes sexual molestation, sexual exploitation, or any other behavior, including the use of the internet or phone, by which an adult uses a child as an object of sexual gratification; and the commission of a sexual offense against a child as defined by civil or criminal law.

## ABUSE/NEGLECT REPORTING CHECKLIST

- Suspicion of abuse/neglect is all that is necessary to report.
- Reports are confidential.
- You will be asked to describe your concerns about the child/adult and it will be helpful if you can provide the person's name, age, address, gender, school, and names of parents.
- Is there immediate danger?
  - **YES-CALL 911**
  - No-call 1-844-CO-4-KIDS or or local law enforcement
- Did I get the name and contact of the person I made the report to?
- Did I contact the Archdiocese Confidential Reporting Line at 720.239.2832?
- Did I file the abuse reporting form with the Office of Child and Youth Protection?
- Did I notify my supervisors?
- Is any other action necessary?

## WHAT IS AT-RISK AND ELDER ABUSE AND NEGLECT?

**Exploitation** means taking an at-risk elder's money or other assets against their will or without their knowledge. It also means deceiving, harassing, intimidating or using undue influence to get the elder to do something against their will.

**Caretaker Neglect** occurs when an at-risk elder's caretaker fails to make sure the elder has adequate food, clothing, shelter, psychological care, physical care, medical care, or supervision.

**Physical Abuse** is hitting, slapping, pushing, kicking, burning, confining, or restraining an adult.

**Sexual abuse** is sexual activity or touching without the adult's consent or understanding.

**Self-Neglect** is also mistreatment and must be reported.

## HOW IS A REPORT MADE?

Known or suspected incidents must be reported immediately, the same day you become aware of it.

- First, to the appropriate local civil authority and
- Second, to the Office of Child and Youth Protection of the Archdiocese of Denver.

**Abuse reports:** See the abuse reporting decision-tree to help you choose which route to proceed.

Be sure to document the name and title of the person who takes the report at the reporting agency and also record the reference number if applicable.

A follow-up written Child and Adult Abuse and Neglect Report should then be emailed or faxed to the reporting agency; obtain verification that this report has been received.



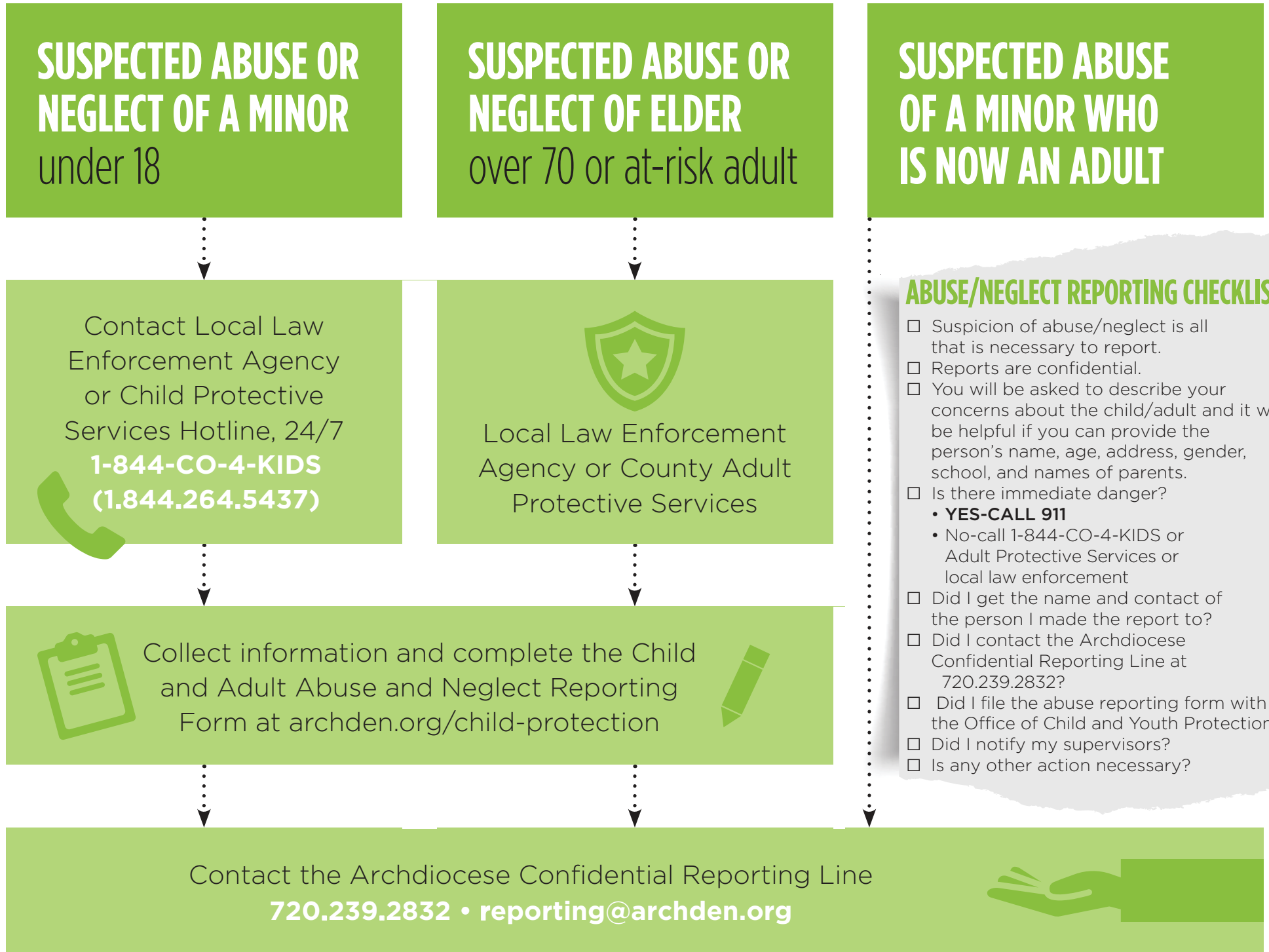
**HOW TO REPORT  
SUSPECTED  
ABUSE or NEGLECT**  
an informative resource

PLEASE DISPLAY IN A VISIBLE AREA

# EVERYONE IN THE COMMUNITY PLAYS A ROLE IN THE PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

If you know or suspect any incidents of neglect, physical abuse, or sexual abuse of a minor, elder, or at-risk adult, it must be reported. This includes reporting incidents in which the alleged victim is now an adult. Known or suspected incidents must be reported the same day you become aware of it.

## SUSPECTED ABUSE OR NEGLECT REPORTING DECISION TREE



**Remember...** If you see or hear about a boundary being crossed, you have no idea how many times it has happened before, or will happen again. Child safety begins with you!

A copy of the of the Child and Adult Abuse and Neglect Report should also be forwarded to the Archdiocese Confidential Reporting Line, [reporting@archden.org](mailto:reporting@archden.org) or fax 303.715.2047 or 1300 S Steele St, Denver, CO 80210.

ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES						Rio Blanco	970.878.9640
Adams	303.227.2049	Eagle	970.328.7720	Larimer	970.498.7770	Routt	970.870.5533
Arapahoe	303.636.1750	Garfield	970.945.9193	Logan	970.522.2194	Sedgwick	970.474.3397
Boulder	303.441.1309	Gilpin	303.582.5444	Moffat	970.824.8282	Summit	970.485.5353
Broomfield	720.887.2271	Grand	970.725.3331	Morgan	970.542.3530	Washington	970.345.2238
Clear Creek	303.679.2365	Jackson	970.723.4750	Phillips	970.854.2280	Weld	970.346.7676
Denver	720.944.2994	Jefferson	303.271.4673	Pitkin	970.429.2047	Yuma	970.332.4877



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