CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION

Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) has defined child abuse and neglect as "any recent act or failure to act on the part of a parent or caregiver that results in death, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse, or exploitation, or an act or failure to act that presents an imminent risk of serious harm.

MORE THAN SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS, NURSERY WORKERS, CHURCH STAFF, SCHOOL TEACHERS
- Family ministry leaders
- All of Your Church
- Anyone with a minor under 18
- Anyone with vulnerable adults

WHAT? TO DO IF YOU SUSPECT ABUSE
You do not have to have specific facts or exact proof, only a reasonable suspicion to file a report with the Department of Child and Family Services.

Case workers will provide investigation to ensure all parties are appropriately cared for and have any needed resources.

WHEN REPORTING BE PREPARED WITH AS MANY DEMOGRAPHIC DETAILS AS POSSIBLE.
1 NAME
2 HOME ADDRESS
3 DETAILS

WHEN?
Mandated reporting is required within 24 hours of concern of suspected abuse.

Review your specific Safe Sanctuary Policy to follow reporting chain

WHERE?
Abuse and neglect can take place in homes, churches, and anywhere children and vulnerable adults are present.

HOW? REPORTING 101
- Local Law Enforcement
- State Wide DFCS Reporting Line: 1-855-GACHILD (1-855-422-4453)

DURING THE TIME OF SOCIAL DISTANCING
Be sure to have open eyes and ears for suspicious comments made by minors and vulnerable adults during this time. With less interaction, YOU HAVE A GREATER RESPONSIBILITY TO NOTICE AND REPORT SUSPECTED ABUSE.

ZOOM RESPONSIBILITIES
☆ Reporting potential abuse & neglect can take place during distancing and pandemic.
☆ See something or hear something....

UPDATE SAFE SANCTUARIES POLICY
☆ Ensure all who volunteer with children and vulnerable adults are up to date with trainings
☆ Digital trainings and background screenings are helpful in this season

WHY?
Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”

Matthew 19:14, NIV