Hope Recovery offers online support for survivors of abuse and sexual trauma.

More information is found on our website under Resources, and a variety of services will be offered online at various times for survivors.



If someone you love is being abused, or if you have survived child abuse, seek help. Don't struggle in silence alone. There are resources out there to help and provide support as well as treatment.

#### MISSION

The mission of Hope Recovery is to make a positive difference in the lives of individuals by assisting them in their trauma recovery providing support, resources, committed volunteers, national leadership and standards of excellence.

#### VISION

Hope Recovery aspires to provide excellence in service and support while assisting individuals in achieving their recovery goals.

### Hope Recovery, Inc.

PO Box 127 Shepardsville, IN 47880

E-mail:

recovery@hope4christianrecovery.org Phone US: (765) 205-9977

Call outside the USA\* can only be returned to landlines.

\*Includes Guam, Puerto Rico and Canada.

www.hope4christianrecovery.org

Hope Recovery, Inc.

## Warning Signs of Child Abuse & Neglect





# Warning Signs of Child Abuse & Neglect

While physical abuse is the easiest type of abuse to identify in most cases, other types of abuse do occur. There is emotional abuse, sexual abuse, and neglect. While warning signs may not confirm abuse, they are signs that there is help needed in some fashion, for the family or the child.

#### Signs of Emotional Abuse:

Appears detached in relationships

Behavioral irregularities (adult like or childlike—not age congruent)

Delays in emotional and social growth

Inability to interact as other children do

Sleep disturbance

Speech disorders

Withdrawn, fearful

#### Signs of Neglect:

Dirty / unkempt

Lack of adequate shelter

Lack of medical or dental care

Left alone frequently

Poor nutrition

Poor school attendance

#### Signs of Physical Abuse:

Bruises or other marks (welts, burns, etc.) that can't be explained

Extreme fear or insecurity

Flinches at sudden movements

Inappropriate dressing for weather (long sleeves on hot days)

Injuries in uncommon places

Shies away from touch or closeness

Withdrawn

#### Signs of Sexual Abuse:

Avoidance of a specific person without logical reason

Bruising or bleeding in external genitalia

Difficulty walking or sitting

Frequent yeast infections or sexually transmitted diseases

Itching or pain in the genital area

Inappropriate sexual play or advanced understanding for age appropriateness

Pregnancy, particularly in children under 14 years old

Runaway

Stained, torn or bloody underclothing

#### How to Help and Protect Your Family:

Be aware of who interacts with your children

Distribute child abuse awareness materials in your community or church

Donate to programs that support the prevention, support and treatment of child abuse

Educate yourself about abuse and neglect

Learn what is age appropriate behaviors

Reduce isolation

Report suspected or known abuse—In the US call 800-4-A-CHILD (800) 422-4453 or in the UK: adults-0808 800 5000-For children, 0800 1111, or in Australia: 1 800 688 009. Children can contact chiworld.org online for help.

Seek support if your child has been abused

Set clear boundaries in your family and with other adults who spend time with your children

Talk to your child about what is going on in their lives and keep communication open so they will feel free to talk with you if they are abused by someone