

What Should you Do?

If you suspect a person is being abused or neglected, you're legally responsible to make a report as soon as possible and to support the person who is being abused to report it themselves.

How to report suspected abuse or neglect:

- Anyone who is 17 years old or younger, contact the Department of Children and Families: 1-800 842 2288
- Adults between 18 and 59 years of age who have an intellectual disability and receive services through the Department of Mental Retardation (DMR), contact The Office of Protection and Advocacy: 860 297 4300 and DMR case manager
- Anyone 60 years old or older, contact the Department of Social Services: 1-888 385 4225



Resources:

1. Individual Family Fact Sheet - Abuse and Neglect:
http://www.dmr.state.ct.us/publications/centralofc/fact_sheets/ifs_abuneg_fam.htm
2. Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect:
<http://www.ct.gov/dcf/cwp/view.asp?a=2556&q=314388>
3. Office of Protection and Advocacy:
<http://www.ct.gov/opapd/site/default.asp>
4. Department of Social Services:
<http://www.ct.gov/dss/cwp/view.asp?a=2345&q=304868>

Determining the difference between abuse and neglect can be difficult. Many people think of abuse as someone deliberately hurting someone else, and neglect as not providing adequate support. Below is a definition of abuse and neglect and what you should do if you believe your employer is being abused or neglected.



What is Abuse?

“The willful infliction by a caregiver, of physical pain or injury or the willful deprivation of services necessary to the physical and mental health and safety of an individual.”

Some Examples:

- Shouting at your employer when she asks for help getting dressed
- Refusing to help your employer when asked



What is Neglect?

“The failure by a caregiver through action or inaction to provide an individual with the services necessary to maintain his or her physical and mental health and safety.”

Some Examples:

- Taking a personal call while leaving the employer in the shower without the support he needs
- Telling your employer to wait until you are ready to take her to the bathroom