

Why use the Family Advocacy Program (FAP)?

- Seeking help is a sign of strength
- Children deserve a safe, supportive environment
- Reduce the likelihood of further maltreatment by providing resources and support for families
- Licensed FAP clinicians provide counseling to individuals, couples and families at no cost to military members and beneficiaries
- Educate community on prevention and safety measures
- Support mission readiness by promoting resiliency and safety measures

Resources for Addressing Child Abuse

Report suspicions of child neglect or abuse to your local installation's Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) Family Advocacy Program (FAP). FAP can provide treatment, referrals and safety planning.

Childhelp National Child Abuse Hotline
www.childhelp.org/hotline/
1-800-4-A-CHILD (1-800-422-4453)

Military OneSource
www.militaryonesource.mil
1-800-342-9647

Call your local police department or base security if you are witnessing child abuse and/or neglect or suspect that a child is in immediate danger.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month



www.ffsp.navy.mil



Strong Communities Strengthen Families

Be Informed.

Be Attentive.

Be Supportive.

**CHILD
ABUSE
PREVENTION**

www.ffsp.navy.mil
Fleet & Family Support Program

Family Advocacy Program Services

- New Parent Support Program Home Visitors
- Counseling services
- Parenting, infant care and safe sleep, stress management, anger management relationships, and financial management classes
- Prevention and education of leadership, service members and first responders
- Victim advocacy to non-offending caregivers for safety planning
- Referrals to professionals in the community

Visit www.ffsp.navy.mil for more information on these services.

Be Informed. Be Attentive. Be Supportive.

Address stressful or concerning situations before they become serious by seeking education or professional support.

- Contact a Military OneSource counselor 24/7: 1-800-342-9647 or www.militaryonesource.mil
- Support call center for parents: National Parent Helpline – 1-855-4A-Parent (1-855-427-2736) or www.nationalparenthelpline.org
- Learn how to handle chronic crying from babies: Purple Crying – www.purplecrying.info
- Learn safe sleeping procedures for babies: Safe and Sound – <http://www.militaryonesource.mil/parenting>
- Have normal expectations for a child based on the developmental stage: The Amazing Brain – <http://www.instituteforsafeamilies.org/materials/amazing-brain>
- Learn and practice positive parenting and appropriate means of discipline: Zero to Three – <https://www.zerotothree.org> or American Society for the Positive Care of Children – <http://americanspcc.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/2017-Preventing-Child-Abuse-Parent-Tip-Sheet-English.pdf>

Understanding Mandated Reporting Requirements

Military members and professionals working with children are mandated reporters, and therefore, are legally obligated to report suspicions of child abuse or neglect to the local installation's FFSC Family Advocacy Program (FAP). FAP will notify child protective services and law enforcement agencies. In cases of emergency, mandated reporters should call 911.

Learn to recognize child abuse and neglect:

- Constant name calling, put downs and humiliation
- Threats to harm child or a loved person/pet/object
- Strangulation, suffocation, submerging, shaking
- Hitting, slapping, punching, kicking or burning
- Extreme and unusual punishment
- Rape, sexual assault or exposure to sexual content
- Lack of medical care, education, nurturance, nutrition and hydration, or sanitary condition
- Unsafe environment – physically and emotionally
- Lack of supervision, extreme isolation or deprived environment

Abuse and neglect can lead to injury, physical ailments, underdevelopment, stress and psychological repercussions, and sometimes death. Reporting suspected abuse and neglect can save lives.