

Our Mission

Our Mission is to assure that Children at risk of abuse or neglect are protected and nurtured within a family and with the support of our community.

How Do We Do This?

We offer many services to help children and their families live safe and healthy in their home.

- ✓ Protection and Care for Abused and Neglected Children and their Families.
- ✓ In Extreme Situations, Placement for Children Including: Relatives' homes, Foster homes & Treatment Facilities.
- ✓ Homemaking and Budgeting Skills.
- ✓ Adoption of Special Needs Children.
- ✓ Parenting & Anger Management Classes
- ✓ Independent Living Skills Training
- ✓ Referral and Coordination of Services.
- ✓ Child Abuse and Neglect Helpline. (This toll free line provides 24 hour service in **emergency** situations involving abuse or neglect.)
- ✓ Help Me Grow Program for moms, infants, and toddlers.
- ✓ Kinship Care Program for relatives and other individuals caring for children other than their own.
- ✓ Summer Foods Program to serve breakfast and lunch during the summer months to needy families.
- ✓ Rooms to Grow, to provide a home-like environment for supervised visitation.

How Do I Report Abuse or Neglect?

Call the 24 Hour Kids HelpLine
1-888-998-1811 or 998-1811

Helpful Things To Know When Calling:

- ✓ Child's First and Last Name
- ✓ Age of Child
- ✓ Name of Parents and Others in the Household
- ✓ Other Siblings and Their Names
- ✓ Address of Household
- ✓ Phone Number of Household
- ✓ Reason for Calling (remember you do not need proof, only suspicion)
- ✓ Knowledge of any Dangerous Pets or Weapons in Household

For more information visit our website at
www.kidshelpline.org or email
csforkid@suite224.net

Office Hours: 8am to 5pm (M-F)

We are located in the Donahoe Center, just east of the Ashtabula Mall



When You Care, It Makes Me Feel Good



Ashtabula County Children Services Board
P.O. Box 1175, 3914 C Court
Ashtabula, OH 44005-1175

Who We Are

Children Services is a public agency organized by law to protect and care for children who are physically, emotionally, or sexually abused, neglected or whose parents are unable to care for them.

What is Abuse and Neglect?

Child abuse can be physical, sexual or emotional.

- ✓ Child abuse means:
 - ✓ Causing serious injuries to a child, such as those that may require medical or psychological attention.
 - ✓ Punishing or beating a child in a way that could severely harm him or her.
 - ✓ Molesting or allowing others to molest a child.

- ✓ Child neglect means a child is not getting what they need such as:
 - ✓ Adult supervision or protection (such as being left home alone).
 - ✓ Safe and clean housing
 - ✓ Medical attention, education, food or clothing



FAQ

How do I get help to a child who is being abused or neglected?

Call the agency and speak to an intake screener. They will check into the situation and begin the process of protecting the child and helping the family.

Do I have to give my name or go to court?

No. If possible, it is helpful if we know your connection to the child, or we may be more successful if we have it, but you do not have to give your name. Rarely do referral sources go to court.



Can a parent call for help with their own children?

Certainly! Parents who are not able to care for their children temporarily, or parents who fear they may hurt their children, are encouraged to call for help.

How often do you remove children from their families?

Children are removed in less than 10% of the cases, and most of these are later returned when the family situation is stabilized. Our objective is to keep families together and strengthen family ties. In most cases we work with families in their own home.

What areas do you serve?

Our programs extend to residents in all areas of Ashtabula County. Our workers go anywhere in the county where services are needed.

Do you accept donations?

Yes. Donations are used to provide special things for the children which we can not purchase with tax dollars. Such as birthday presents, school instruments, and other items.



It takes a Community for a Child to Grow!

Open up your heart and your home to a child. We are always looking for foster or adoptive parents. If you are interested in participating in the life of a child in a meaningful way contact us to foster or adopt a child. You must be 21 years or older. You can rent or own your home, have children of your own or none in the home, and there is money available to help offset the cost of an additional child in your home. Call 998-1811 or 1-888-998-1811 and ask for a member of the homefinding team for more information.