



Water & Christian Streets | Philadelphia, PA 19147 | (215) 336-3324

SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT POLICY

Reporting Procedure

All observations and/or suspicions of child abuse or neglect will be immediately reported to the child protective services agency no matter where the abuse might have occurred.

All mandated reporters at YCCA will call the Child Protective Services at **(800) 932-0313** to report suspected abuse or neglect.

All mandated reporters at YCCA will follow the direction of the child protective services agency regarding the completion of written reports. If the parent or legal guardian of the child is suspected of abuse, all mandated reporters at YCCA will follow the guidance of the child protective agency regarding notification of the parent or legal guardian. Reporters of suspected child abuse will not be discharged for making the report unless it is proven that a false report was knowingly made.

Staff who are alleged perpetrators of child abuse may be suspended or given leave without pay pending completion of an investigation.

Such caregivers may also be removed from the classroom and given a job that does not require interaction with children. Parents or legal guardians of suspected abused children will be notified. Parents/legal guardians of other children in the program will be contacted by all mandated reporters at YCCA so they may share any concerns they have had. It is important to note that no accusation or affirmation of guilt will be made until the investigation is complete. Caregivers found guilty of child abuse will be summarily dismissed or relieved of their duties.¹

¹ Adapted with permission, from PA Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics. *Model Child Care Health Policies*. Rosemont, PA 2002, 4.