Child Abuse and Neglect: Risks, Recognition, and Reporting
Learning Guide for Ongoing Professional Development

Note to Learner: Early Impact Virginia encourages you to complete the training and activities with the support of your supervisor. The notes below will guide you in preparing to take the training, following up with your supervisor after the training, supporting transfer of learning into daily practice, and extending learning through individual supervision.

Ongoing: View the Professional Development Program and each EIV training module as an investment in skills and knowledge to help improve home visitor effectiveness.

Before the training:
- Learner and supervisor review course objectives and home visitor competencies
- Learner sets personal learning goals
- Learner completes pre-training activities, as required

During the training, the learner:
- Completes activities
- Reflects on own response
- Identifies questions and concerns
- Completes post-training evaluation

After the training:
- Learner:
  - Completes pre- and post-training activities, as required, and shares them with supervisor
  - Develops an action plan for applying skills and knowledge in daily practice
  - Meets with supervisor to:
    - Review pre- and post-training activities
    - Discuss reflections, questions, and concerns
    - Review action plan for applying skills and knowledge in daily practice
    - Assess personal learning goals, transfer of learning, and action plan over time

This 1 hour 10 minute online module, provided by the Virginia Department of Social Services, gives an overview of the Code of Virginia’s definition of child abuse and neglect, including physical, emotional and sexual abuse as well as medical and general neglect. The module gives criteria for recognizing cases of abuse and neglect and guidelines on when and how to make report to Child Protective Services. It also outlines what to expect when making a report.

Health Education Design Group, IIHHS, James Madison University, 2017
Virginia Home Visitor Competencies Addressed:

4.1.c. Recognizes environmental and care-giving risks to the health and safety of children and parents and takes appropriate action when safety concerns arise, including delivering an intervention, referring the family for appropriate services, and/or reporting concerns to a supervisor or appropriate agency.

4.6.d. Understands the proper steps to ensure family and child safety when safety is threatened.

6.3.d. Recognizes the indications of child abuse and neglect and complies with mandatory reporter child protection laws in the Commonwealth of Virginia and determines when to consult supervisor is cases where child protection is a concern.

Before the Training

Rate Your Knowledge (Scale of 0 to 5, 0 = no knowledge, 5 = significant knowledge)

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<tr>
<th>Learning Objective</th>
<th>Before the Training</th>
<th>After the Training</th>
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<tr>
<td>Discuss the home visitor’s role and responsibilities as a mandated reporter.</td>
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<td>Define the types of child abuse and neglect recognized in Virginia.</td>
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<td>Define “abuse” and “neglect.”</td>
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<td>List the indicators of abuse.</td>
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<td>Make decisions about the appropriate response to disclosure of abuse and neglect.</td>
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<td>Describe the procedures for reporting suspected child abuse and neglect.</td>
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<td>List the information needed by CPS when making a report.</td>
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<td>Describe the typical response by CPS to reports of suspected abuse and neglect and what a person can expect from CPS after a report is made.</td>
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My personal learning goals for this training are:

1. ____________________________________________________________________________
2. ____________________________________________________________________________
3. ____________________________________________________________________________
After the Training

Reflections on what I learned:

Questions and concerns I identified:

Action Plan: (Each learner’s plan will be unique. To get you started, some ideas are listed below.)

As a result of this training, I will...

- Keep the local Department of Social Services and Child Abuse and Neglect hotline numbers with me at all times.
- Examine my beliefs and biases about the kind of parent who might abuse or neglect their children.
- Talk with my supervisor about:
  - My beliefs and biases and identify areas for growth.
  - Whether I should inform parents of my decision to report suspected child abuse and neglect.
  - My agency’s policies and procedures for making CPS reports and any instructions about how and when to inform my supervisor.
- Develop relationships with CPS workers in my community.

My Action Plan

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