What is CHILD ABUSE?

It is any mistreatment of a child that results in harm or injury. Child abuse includes:

PHYSICAL ABUSE

For example, purposely hurting a child by hitting, biting or shaking

EMOTIONAL ABUSE

For example, crushing a child's spirit with threats or put-downs

SEXUAL ABUSE

For example, sexual contact with a child,; using a child for sexual films or prostitution; obscene language

NEGLECT

For example, failing to provide for a child's emotional needs (love, attention, etc.) or physical needs (food, clothing, shelter, etc.); failing to offer supervision

WHAT YOU CAN DO

If you know of a child being abused, you CAN do something to stop the abuse. The following are toll-free numbers you can call:

- Missouri Child Abuse/Neglect Hotline 1-800-392-3738
- National Child Abuse Hotline 1-800-4ACHILD
- Call 911 in an emergency

Victim Center
PREVENTION. INTERVENTION. EDUCATION.

24-hour hotline: 417-864-SAFE(7233) / 819 N. Boonville, Springfield, MO 65802 / www.thevictimcenter.org