

## **WHAT TO DO IF YOU SUSPECT CHILD ABUSE**

- **STAY CALM, INTENSE EMOTIONS WILL FRIGHTEN YOUR CHILD.**
- **BELIEVE YOUR CHILD, DON'T DENY PROBLEM OR BLAME CHILD.**
- **NEVER PUNISH CHILD. SEXUAL ABUSE IS NOT HIS / HER FAULT, IT IS THE ABUSER.**
- **ASSURE CHILD YOU STILL LOVE HIM/HER.**
- **TELL CHILD HE/SHE IS SAFE NOW AND WILL NOT BE HARMED.**
- **SEXUAL ABUSE IS A CRIME, DO NOT TAKE INTO YOUR OWN HANDS.**
- **DO NOT QUESTION CHILD ONCE HE/SHE HAS DISCLOSED.**
- **DO NOT THREATEN TO HURT ABUSER.**
- **CONTACT POLICE!**