Mandated Reporting

While anyone can report suspected abuse, individuals who, in the course of their employment, occupation or profession, come in contact with children are required by Child Protective Services law to report suspected abuse.

When might a report for suspected abuse be made? The child Protective Services Law outlines that reports are to be made when:

1) an act or failure to act results in a non-accidental serious physical injury 2) an act or failure to act results in serious mental injury (psychological condition), sexual abuse or sexual exploitation 3) any recent act that creates an imminent risk of serious physical injury, sexual abuse or sexual exploitation, and 4) serious physical neglect which endangers a child's life or development or impairs the child's functioning.

In addition, the Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) requires via Announcement EI-07 #11 that <u>any suspected child abuse allegedly committed by an early intervention service provider (service coordinator, evaluator, teacher or therapist) must be reported in writing to the county EI program within 24 hours of <u>observation or knowledge</u>. The county EI program must submit a copy of the written report to OCDEL within 24 hours of receiving the report. At the same time, a report must also be made to either ChildLine – 1-800-932-0313 or the local county children & youth office (number located in blue pages on phone book). A follow up report must also be submitted per Announcement EI-07 #11 that outlines the outcome of the investigation into the alleged abuse.</u>

Advocacy Resources

Information Only:

Local Right to Education Task Force – Jinny Weidenhamer 570-523-1155 ext 2215 Child Advocacy Project – www.cap4kids.org/central-susquehanna-valley/

Individuals:

Susan Colon – <u>susan@autism-advocacy.org</u>

Organizations:

The ARC, Northumberland County 225 Market Street, 2nd Floor Sunbury, PA 17801 570-286-1008 or arcnorthdir@ptd.net

PEAL Center 1119 Penn Avenue, Suite 400 Pittsburgh, PA 15222 1-866-950-1040 or info@pealcenter.org

Parent Education Network 2107 Industrial Hwy York, PA 17402 717-600-0100 or www.parentednet.org

Pennsylvania's Education for All Coalition Inc. P O Box 263 Norwood, PA 19074

610-522-0698

Disabilities Right Network

http://drnpa.org 800-692-7443

PA Health Law Project 800-274-3258 staff@phlp.org