



Early Settlement Mediation Southwest Program

Social Media

Follow us on social media for the most up-to-date information about the Southwest Program!



Upcoming Events:

- March 6: Family & Divorce Mediator Training
Office Closed
- March 8: Daylight Saving Time Starts
- March 16-20: Office Closed for Spring Break
- April 5: Easter
- May 8: Volunteer Conference in OKC



Reminder:

Mediators are mandated reporters.

Oklahoma law provides that mediation is a confidential, private process & that information obtained from a mediation may not be disclosed unless otherwise required by law. For example, a mediator must disclose information brought to his/her attention that an elderly person, or a person with disabilities or a child under the age of eighteen (18) has been abused or neglected.

If you encounter a situation that you think needs to be reported please reach out to the SW office!



ALL children deserve great childhoods.
If you suspect it, **REPORT** it.

24-Hour Statewide
Oklahoma Child Abuse Hotline 1.800.522.3511

Who Must Report?
Every person in Oklahoma who has reason to believe that a child under 18 has been abused or neglected or is in danger of being abused or neglected is **required by law** to promptly make a report.
Failure to report child abuse is a misdemeanor offense. A person who reports suspected abuse in "good faith" is immune from criminal and civil liability.

How to Report:
If you suspect abuse or neglect, take the following action:
Contact the Oklahoma Child Abuse Hotline **1.800.522.3511**.
If the child is in imminent danger, contact **911** or local law enforcement.

WONDERING WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP PREVENT ABUSE?
Contact the Family Support & Prevention Service
fspd.health.ok.gov or 405.271.7611

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How can you support stressed parents in public?
All parents can be challenged while out with their child in public, especially when the child is tired, hungry, confined or bored. We can lessen parents stress by doing the following:

1. **BE KIND** and supportive. A gentle smile can go a long way.
2. **CONNECT** with the parent or child. "It's not easy, is it? I remember when my kids were toddlers, too." Think about how you would want to be treated in a similar situation.
3. **ASSIST** the parent by offering help. Examples include offering to read a book in a waiting room or providing an extra set of hands at the supermarket.

*Parenting isn't easy.
All parents need support.*

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