



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, FORT HOOD
FORT HOOD, TEXAS 76544-5000**

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

Child, Youth & School Services

Dear CYSS Parents,

The mission of Fort Hood Child, Youth & School Services is to reduce the conflict between mission readiness and parental responsibility by offering quality programs and accountability for children and youth. Part of that responsibility is the protection of children from abuse as being a shared responsibility between the Army and parents.

It is our responsibility to inform you what child abuse is, some of the indicators, and how to report if suspected. Army Regulation 608-18, which governs the Army Family Advocacy (FA) program, states that every Soldier, employee, and member of the military community must report information about any known or suspected cases of child abuse. About 3.5 million children are reported as abused each year. That number reflects only half of the total number of children that are abused.

There are four types of child abuse; physical, sexual, emotional, and neglect (deprivation).

Physical abuse is the intentional, non-accidental, physical injury to a child inflicted by a parent, guardian or other person responsible for the child's welfare. Indicators of physical abuse are unexplained bruises or welts, burns, fractures and lacerations or abrasions.

Sexual abuse is the involvement of a child in any sexual act or situation, the purpose of which is to provide sexual gratification or financial benefit to the perpetrator; all sexual activity between the caretaker and a child is considered sexual abuse. Indicators of sexual abuse are difficulty walking or sitting, torn, stained, or bloody underclothing, pain or itching in genital area or buttocks area, pregnancy or venereal disease.

Emotional abuse is an act or commission (such as intentional berating, disparaging, or other abusive behavior) or omission (such as passive or aggressive inattention to a child's emotional needs) on the part of the caretaker. Maltreatment causes low self-esteem in the child, undue fear or anxiety, or other damage to the child's emotional well-being. Indicators are speech disorders, lags in physical development, and failure to thrive.

Neglect (deprivation) includes neglecting to provide the following when able to do so: nourishment, clothing, shelter, healthcare, education, and supervision.

Local reporting requirements require our military community members, to include you—the parents—to contact the Army Community Service, Family Advocacy Program @ 287-CARE; Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center, Department of Social Work @ 288-6474; or the Texas Department of Protective & Regulatory Services @ 1-800-252-5400. Keeping children safe is a shared responsibility.


J. Yveta Phillips
Coordinator
Child, Youth & School Services