



**GATEWAY
REGION YMCA**

SPOT

THE TYPES OF CHILD ABUSE

Protecting our children is everyone's responsibility. Knowing the types of child abuse can help us identify it.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) identifies the four types of child abuse as neglect, physical abuse, sexual abuse and emotional abuse. Bullying is also identified as a type of abuse by some organizations. Signs and symptoms may include:

Neglect

- Be in need of adequate medical or dental care.
- Lack sufficient food and clothing.
- Withdraw socially and show poor concentration.
- Experience frequent school absences.
- Fall behind in overall growth.
- Miss their food or money at unusual times.

Physical Abuse

- Possess bruises, cuts, and other injuries.
- May blame an injury on a sibling.
- Their explanation of the injury may not match the injury itself.
- Constantly ask what will happen next.
- Talk about being injured by a specific person.

Sexual Abuse

- Keep secrets.
- Undergo a loss of interest in activities.
- Exhibit mood or appetite changes.
- Shy away from a specific person.
- Disengage from friends and others.
- Impart sexual knowledge beyond their years.

Emotional Abuse

- Display behavioral changes.
- Show delayed emotional development.
- Decline in their performance at school.
- Appear isolated, anxious or afraid.
- Disengage socially or lose enthusiasm.
- Show lack of attachment to parent or caregiver.

**For additional
Child Abuse
Prevention
Resources:**

Gateway Region YMCA main office: 314-436-1177

Sources: CDC, Mayo Clinic, Medical News Today

[Illinois Department of Child and Family Services](#)

[Missouri Department of Social Services](#)