

For Immediate Release Monday, October 21, 2019 Contact: Joseph Smack (302) 633-2501 or 893-8930 (m) Joseph.smack@delaware.gov

Child Abuse Reporting Options Expand in Delaware

New reporting portal allows reports of child abuse to be received via mobile & other devices

Wilmington – The Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families (DSCYF) has launched a new reporting portal that allows both professionals and members of the community to submit online reports of suspected child abuse and neglect. The new portal, with its enhanced functionality, is more efficient and can be accessed on any mobile device or desktop. It was developed in partnership with Deloitte Digital and replaces an older online reporting form that was not able to be completed on a mobile device, nor could it transfer information directly to the child welfare database.

"We receive approximately 21,000 reports of abuse or neglect per year and timely and accurate reporting is critical to protecting the children who need our help," said Josette Manning, Cabinet Secretary of DSCYF. "This new reporting portal will help reduce wait times for persons making reports of child abuse and neglect and will help our staff at our 24 hour report line by reducing the need to manually enter information into the database," concluded, Manning.

To access the online reporting portal and for information about recognizing the signs of child abuse, please visit iseethesigns.org. Reporters may still utilize the child abuse and neglect hotline, at 1-800-292-9582, and should keep in mind that neither the online portal nor the hotline are a substitute for calling 911 in a true emergency. As always, reporters may choose to remain anonymous.

The Children's Department provides services to children who have been abused, neglected, are dependent, have mental health or substance problems, have been adjudicated delinquent by the Courts, as well as prevention services targeted toward all youth. For more information, please visit https://kids.delaware.gov

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