

# **HOW TO RESPOND IF A CHILD (UNDER 18) DISCLOSES ABUSE**

- 1. Stay calm. Use comforting language to reassure the child.**
- 2. Listen to the child. Avoid asking for details or having them repeat information.**
- 3. Reassure the child. Tell the child it is not their fault, and they've done the right thing by telling you.**
- 4. Say you believe them, and that you will find people who can help.**
- 5. Report the suspected abuse or neglect to:**

**REPORT 24-HOUR/7 DAYS A WEEK  
CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT HOTLINE  
1-855-333-7233**

**OR**

**CALL #SAFE (#7233) FROM A CELL PHONE  
OR**

**SEND TEXTS TO: 505-591-9444**

**AND/OR**

**CONTACT LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT**