

Responding to Child Sexual Abuse

- ✿ Children disclosing sexual abuse (including adults disclosing historical abuse) need to hear:
 - ✿ I believe you
 - ✿ It's not your fault
 - ✿ I'm sorry this happened to you
 - ✿ You're safe with me
- ✿ It is important to stay calm, and allow the victim-survivor to speak - open ended questions are helpful
- ✿ Document what you have seen and heard as soon as practical - memories may fade and alter
- ✿ Every instance of child sexual abuse must be reported - never take action into your own hands and always call 000 where there is immediate risk to any child