

## If you have a friend or neighbor who you think is being abused – What can you do?

- ✓ ***If the abuse is going on right now:*** Don't get into an argument with the abuser or try to break up an abusive situation -- this can get you harmed and/or lead to more abuse of the victim. Call 911 immediately if you observe a situation going on that you think might be abusive or dangerous. The police are trained for these situations.
- ✓ ***If the abuse is not happening right now, but you know or think there is abuse:*** Try to get the victim to call the 24-Hour Victim Advocate hotline, at (910) 322-3418 or to use the steps listed above to get to safety. Be patient and understanding with her/him. Understand, for instance, that many victims of abuse may have very good reasons for staying in an abusive relationship, at least temporarily. Be careful to not pressure the person to do something he/she may not be ready to do unless the person is in immediate danger of being harmed. If you have reason to believe that child abuse or neglect is happening, you should report this to your local County Child Protective Services agency.

### Local County Child Protective Services Offices:

|                   |                |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Cumberland County | (910) 677-2450 |
| Hoke County       | (910) 878-1988 |
| Harnett County    | (910) 814-6662 |
| Moore County      | (910) 947-5683 |
| Lee County        | (919) 718-4690 |
| Robeson County    | (910) 671-3500 |

Family Advocacy Program  
(910) 396-5521



Victim Advocate 24/7 Hotline  
(910) 322-3418