

My child is displaying symptoms of sexual abuse, but has not disclosed anything...

What do I do?

## Things To Do:

- Discuss your concerns with your primary care doctor.
- Keep a short journal for **yourself**, detailing specific signs you observe and the corresponding dates.
- Connect them with a trauma-informed therapist or play therapy.
- Discuss body safety with them if you are comfortable, or consider enrolling them in a body safety class offered through the *Children's Advocacy Center*.
- Ensure your child knows the anatomically correct names for their body parts.

## Things **NOT** to do:

- Avoid asking your child questions about a specific person; instead, allow your child to lead the conversation and listen actively (please see the handout on leading conversations).
- Avoid joining therapy sessions unless you have a specific reason to address a particular issue.
- Do not record any conversations you have with your child.
- Don't confront the person that you suspect; focus on protecting your child by ending contact with them.
- Do not share details about what you are noticing with anyone except doctors, therapists, police, or those at the advocacy center.