



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

# CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION (CAP) ILLINOIS STATE ALLIANCE OF YMCAs

The Illinois State Alliance of YMCAs is committed to Child Protection.

The safety and well-being of children in our care always has been - and always will be - a top priority. Our focus on child safety must be reviewed and renewed. Child sexual abuse (CSA) is preventable, and we can all be a crucial part in the prevention of CSA in our communities.

## Child Sexual Abuse Facts and Stats

1 in 4 girls and 1 in 6 boys are sexually abused before the age of 18.

Every 9 minutes, Child Protective Services (CPS) substantiates, or finds evidence for, a claim of CSA.

Fewer than 10% of victims are abused by strangers.

There are more than 42 million survivors of child sexual abuse in the United States.

Nevertheless, many child victims may never disclose their abuse.

1 in 5 children are solicited sexually on the Internet before the age of 18.

We are working to provide YMCAs a quick resource to access information on child sexual abuse prevention. Bookmark this page and come back often as we will be updating resources as they become available.

## Child Abuse Prevention Resources

### [YUSA CEO Hotline](#)

Did you know YMCA of the USA has a CEO Emergency Hotline (800-822-9622). This hotline connects CEOs to emergency assistance from Y-USA. It is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to YMCA CEOs.

### [YLINK Risk Management community](#)

- [Crisis Communication Planning Guide \(Available on LINK\)](#)
- [A Guide - Preparing for and Responding to Allegations of Child Sexual Abuse \(Available on LINK\)](#)

YMCA Guardians for Child Protection website coming soon

[www.ymca-guardians.org](http://www.ymca-guardians.org)

## Resources from Praesidium

[Praesidium Helpline for YMCAs](#)

This provides information regarding an anonymous 24/7 helpline offered free to all YMCAs. All YMCAs can call the Praesidium Helpline at 855-347-0751 at any time to report suspicious or inappropriate behaviors and policy violations and to ask specific questions related to child abuse prevention.

### [Know Your Score!](#)

This is an online tool that allows you to systematically and privately assess the extent to which your organization employs best practices to ensure client safety. Effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018, [Know Your Score!™](#) must be completed by each Y association at least every two years. If your YMCA is scheduled to complete a self-assessment through Praesidium in 2020, the new deadline for completion is April 30, 2021. This is an extension from the original November 30, 2020 deadline due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Access the Praesidium [KYS! Guardian Tools](#) for help as you complete your YMCA's self-assessment.

For questions about the Know Your Score!™ self-assessment and the resources available to Ys, please contact Praesidium at [capinfo@praesidiuminc.com](mailto:capinfo@praesidiuminc.com) or call 817-801-7773.

## Resources from Insurance Providers

[The Redwoods Group](#)

[Great American Insurance Group](#)

[Philadelphia Insurance Companies](#)

[West Bend Mutual Insurance Company](#)

## Information on your local statute of limitations

Illinois Statute of Limitations (SOLs) on Crimes Against Children

<https://childusa.org/law/illinois/sex-abuse-sol/>

## What is a statute of limitations?

A statute of limitations (SOL) is the maximum amount of time one has to bring a lawsuit from the time of injury or other grounds for a lawsuit either criminal or civil. SOLs vary from state to state and from claim to claim. It may be different for specific crimes and it may begin running at differing times, usually either from the time of injury or from the time of discovery of the injury.

Why is SOL important in child sexual abuse cases?

Research shows that most people who experience sexual abuse in childhood do not disclose until adulthood. Therefore, narrow statutes of limitation can prevent the punishment of perpetrators on the criminal side, and prevent redress on the civil side.

## Reporting concerns, allegations, and incidents

Concerns from parties outside the Y? The [YMCA Child Safety Hotline](#) is accessible on YMCA.net for members, parents, staff, etc. to make reports regarding concerns at local associations.

Y associations reporting abuse allegations and aquatic incidents to Y-USA should only do so using the intake form for this purpose, which is accessible through [Link](#). User guide to safety reporting online intake process is also available through [Link](#).

To report child abuse in Illinois contact the Department of Children and Family Services DCFS

Toll-Free: (800) 252-2873 – 24 hours

Local (toll): (217) 524-2606

<https://www2.illinois.gov/dcfs/Pages/default.aspx>

DCFS has the primary responsibility of protecting children through the investigation of suspected abuse or neglect by parents and other caregivers in a position of trust or authority over the child.

Call the 24-hour Child Abuse Hotline at 800-25-ABUSE (800-252-2873 or TTY 1-800-358-5117) if you suspect that a child has been harmed or is at risk of being harmed by abuse or neglect. If you believe a child is in immediate danger of harm, call 911 first. Your confidential call will not only make sure the child is safe, but also help provide the child's family the services they need to provide a safe, loving and nurturing home.