

# 2019 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY: MANDATORY REPORTER TRAINING



*PCA Iowa asks the Iowa legislature to enact recommendations from the Mandatory Reporter legislative work group. A revision of Iowa's Mandatory Reporting guidelines will create a streamlined, comprehensive framework that effectively executes the intention of this important child and elder protection legislation.*

## **Iowa Code section 232.67-232.75**

- Child protection requires the coordination of many professional groups and a cohesive, accessible, training and certification framework for recognizing the signs of neglect, sexual abuse, and physical abuse and promptly reporting suspicions to agencies for swift response and intervention

## **400,000 Mandatory Reporters in Iowa**

- Iowa's Mandatory Reporter law requires professionals who have frequent contact with children, such as those working in education, health, childcare, social work, law enforcement, and mental health, to receive regular and frequent training in identifying and reporting concerns of child well-being.
- More than 400,000 Iowans are required to be trained as Mandatory Reporters in Iowa.
- Failures in quality Mandatory Reporter requirements place Iowa's most vulnerable populations at risk, clouds effective communication between Mandatory Reporters and the Iowa Department of Human Services, and puts professionals at risk for failure to report.

## **Recommendations provide Free, Accessible, Quality Training**

- Recommendations by the work group provide universal access of Iowa's child and elder abuse reporting law.
- Training modules are provided online, eliminating barriers such as transportation and additional time away from work.
- No fee is incurred to take the course. Access to the course is free and hosted by Iowa Department of Human Services.
- Modules are updated annually to provide accurate information on legislative changes.

**Prevent Child Abuse Iowa strengthens families for Iowa's future. We believe healthy, vibrant communities provide nurturing environments for kids. Prevent Child Abuse Iowa's statewide network provides expertise in child abuse prevention to create a stronger, healthier Iowa.**