



Child Abuse - Just the Facts...

- Child abuse is the 3rd leading cause of death among American children under age 4.
- 4 children die from abuse every day. Over 2,000 are abused or neglected every day in America.
- An estimated 1,700 deaths from abuse occurred with children under 6 accounting for nearly 90% of those fatalities.
- 1 in 4 girls and 1 in 6 boys will be sexually abused by their 18th birthday.
- In Onondaga County, there were over 5,000 hotline calls in 2010 which represented over 9,000 child suspected of being abuse.
- Prolonged abuse causes extreme stress that can disrupt early brain development. And it can leave children vulnerable to chronic diseases later in life. Maltreatment has been associated with heart, lung and liver disease in adulthood. And many of the abused children are at higher risk for adult health problems such as alcoholism, depression, drug abuse, eating disorders, depression and more.

Per the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services Administration for Children and Families
Child Maltreatment 2010 report

- Eighty-eight percent of victims were comprised of three races or ethnicities—African-American (21.9%), Hispanic (21.4%), and White (44.8%).
- What were the most common types of maltreatment? 78.3% suffered neglect, 17.6% suffered physical abuse, and 9.2% suffered sexual abuse
- How can we stop it?
 - The number one goal is to stop abuse before it starts!
 - Be watchful.
 - Get involved.
 - Ask for help. Offer help.
 - Support parents and teach positive parenting skills and how to have successful parent-child relationships.
 - Teach prevention.

Sources:

US Department of Health and Human Services
Prevent Child Abuse America
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