**Child Abuse in Sonoma County - 2013**



*All reports of child abuse are received by Sonoma County Child Protective Services. Social workers are available 24 hours a day to provide risk assessment and support to callers who are reporting suspected child abuse and to make immediate in-person response if necessary. If a child’s safety cannot be assured, social workers coordinate with Law Enforcement to have the child(ren) removed from the home and placed, ideally with siblings, in a safe relative home or in foster care.*

**In calendar year 2013 there were:**

* **5,338** reports of child abuse or neglect received through the Child Abuse Hotline
* **1,880** reports of child abuse were assessed as serious enough to require either triage or an in-person investigation
* **195** children were removed from unsafe and abusive homes

**Today\* in Sonoma County, there are:**



* **896** active child welfare cases
* **357** children living at home while their families work with a social worker to provide a safe and stable home
* **539** children living with a safe relative, in a foster home or in a group home:
  + **146** children living in safe relative/extended   
    family homes
  + **164** children living in licensed foster homes
  + **74** children living in group homes
  + **46** young adults living in transitional housing
  + **34** children temporarily at Valley of the Moon Children’s Home
  + **75** children in other types of placements including guardianship homes, in tribally-approved homes, court-designated homes, etc.
* **61%** foster children with siblings are living with at least one sibling
* **49%** of active child welfare cases involved at least family member who abuses (or used to abuse) methamphetamine.

**Types of Child Abuse Allegations**

*Child abuse allegations fall into 5 general categories:* ***physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, neglect, and at-risk (sibling abused)****. In 2013, there were 1,582 families with allegations of abuse:*

*\* Data reflect point in time caseload data as reported on October 1, 2013. For more information, please call Katie Greaves 565-4261.*

**Sexual**

**Abuse**

**3%**

**Physical**

**Abuse**

**16%**

**Emotional**

**Abuse**

**17%**

**Neglect**

**60%**

**At Risk, Sibling Abused**

**4%**