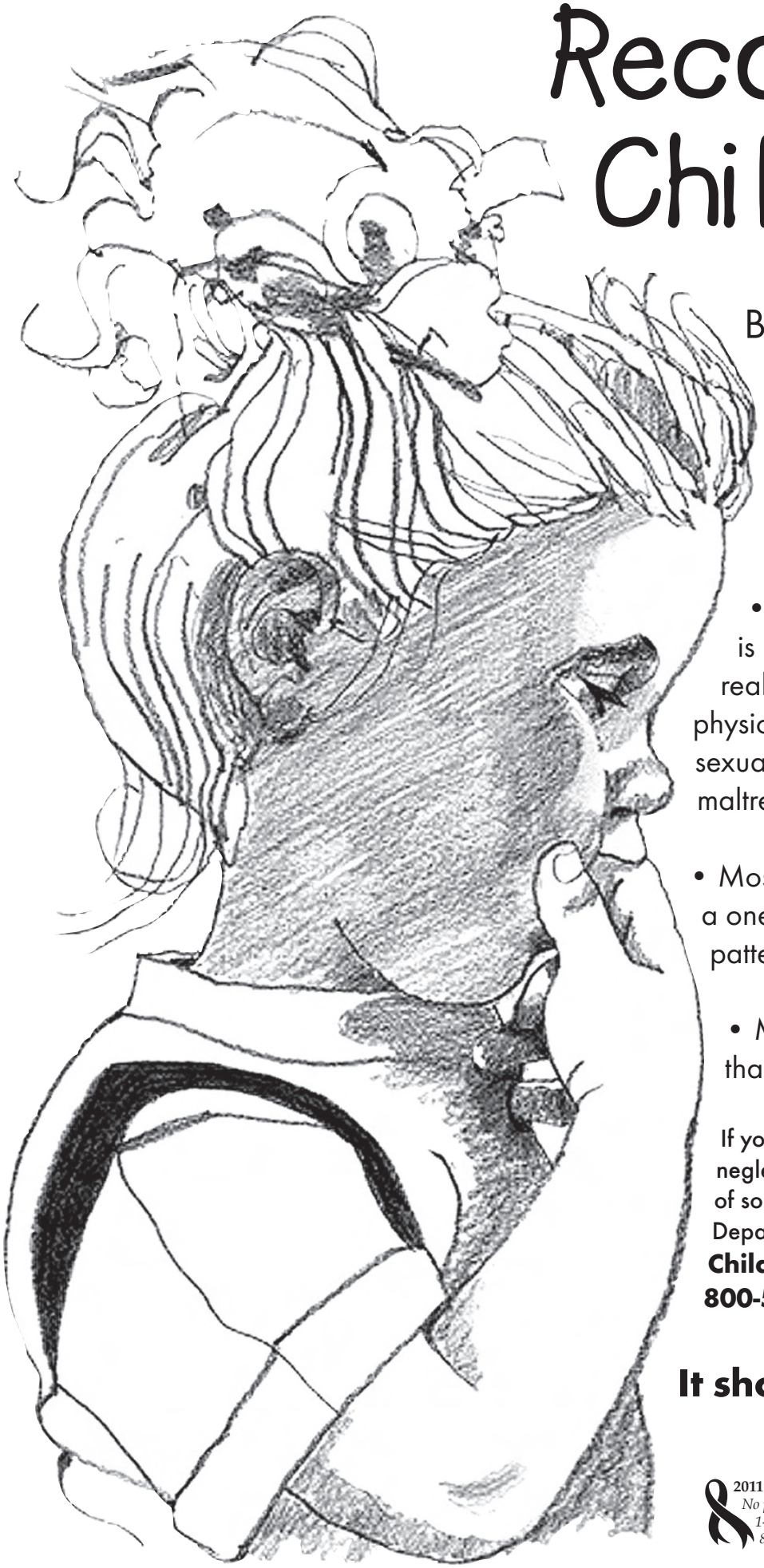
Recognizing Child Abuse



Be aware of abuse, and take action when you suspect it or see it.

Things to know:

- Many people think child abuse is limited to physical harm. In reality, child abuse includes: physical abuse; physical neglect; sexual abuse; and emotional/mental maltreatment.

- Most child abuse and neglect is not a one time event but usually occurs in a pattern over time.

- Many children are subject to more than one form of abuse.

If you suspect a child is being abused or neglected, contact your local department of social services or call the Virginia Department of Social Services
Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline
800-552-7096 (Voice/TTY)

It shouldn't hurt to be a child.

2011 Virginia Coalition for Child Abuse Prevention
No permission is needed to duplicate this page for educational purposes.
1-800-552-7096 Virginia Child Abuse Hotline (language line available)
800-CHILDREN (800-244-5373) Parent Helpline