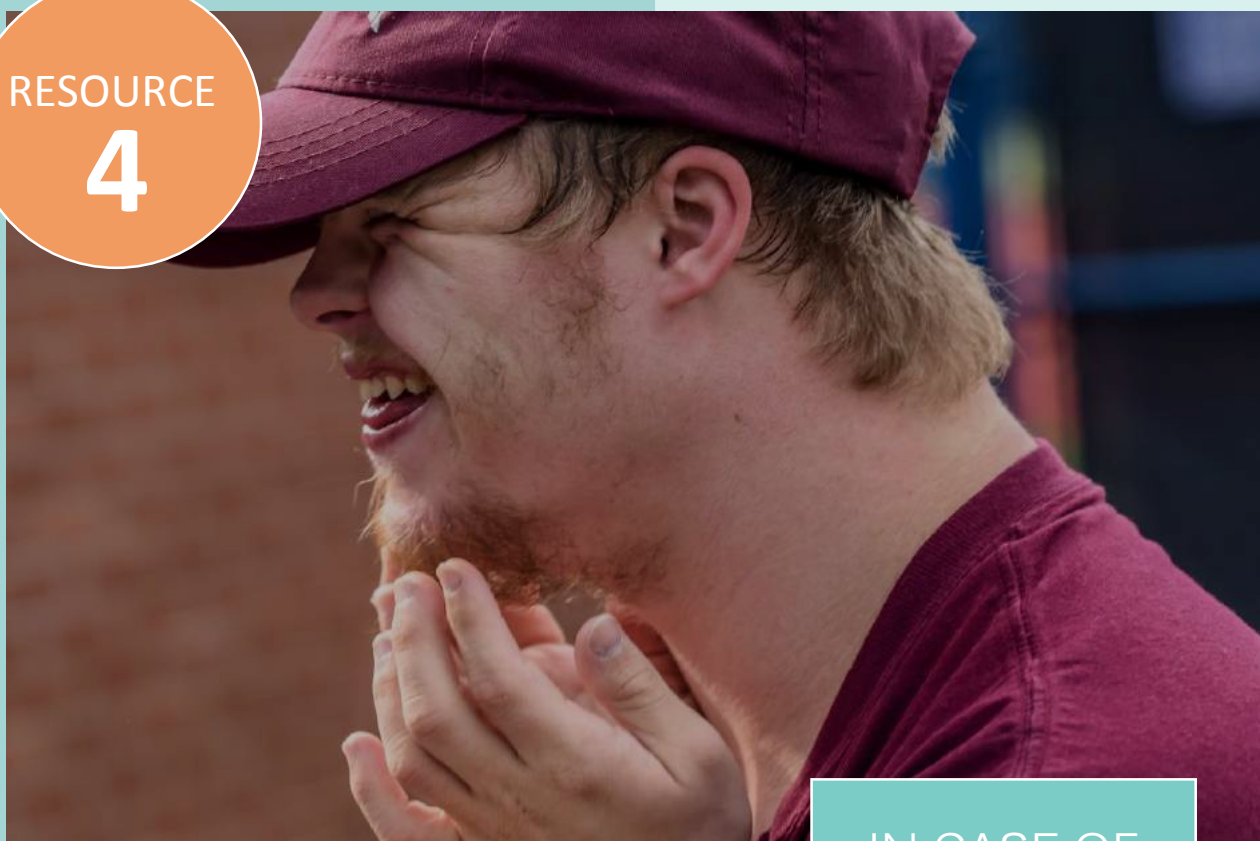


RESOURCE

4



IN CASE OF
EMERGENCY
CALL 000

Disability abuse in your state or territory

In case of emergency or if someone is at imminent risk of harm, call 000 and ask for Police.

Some states and territories have reporting and support systems in place for cases where a person with disability is experiencing abuse. This can include family violence. Details of disability abuse reporting schemes are summarised below.

Note that, at this time, NSW is the only state with mandatory reporting of disability abuse, in certain circumstances. As the National Disability Insurance Scheme rolls out across Australia from 2016-2019, work is underway to develop a nationally consistent disability abuse reporting scheme. At the time of publication of this resource, this scheme was not yet in place. The National Disability Abuse and Neglect Hotline acts as a gateway to the range of support and voluntary reporting systems in other states and territories at this time.

DISABILITY ABUSE

JURISDICTION ¹²	JOBACTIVE MANDATORY REPORTER/NOTIFIER?	REPORTABLE TYPES OF HARM	CONTACT
National	No	The National Disability Abuse and Neglect Hotline offers advice to reporters as to how to locate and access the right supports. It is not a crisis line, and may refer callers to state or territory authorities.	National Disability Abuse and Neglect Hotline: 1800 880 052
NSW	Only if the person lives in funded supported accommodation	Worker to client abuse; client to client abuse; contravention of AVO; unexplained serious injury	Ombudsman: online



BEST PRACTICE

WHAT TO SAY
Refer to Resource 6

Whenever safe to do so, it is best practice to **tell your client** when you are going to make a domestic violence report about them. You should do this unless you have genuine concerns that telling your client will put them or their child at increased risk of harm, for example, if the abuser is likely to react violently to hearing that a report has been made. The tip sheet on **WHAT TO SAY** can give some guidance as to how to have this conversation with your client. If a conversation like this is difficult for you, ask your manager for support. Always ensure you seek debriefing afterwards.

Whether you tell them or not, you should still make a report if you believe that someone is at immediate risk or if you are a mandatory reporter in this circumstance.

In all states and territories, you have the option to make an anonymous report. If you are concerned about the impact that reporting may have on your own safety, or the safety of your client and/or family, discuss your concerns with your manager as soon as possible.

¹² These details are correct as at date of publication. Providers should check the currency of the information for their jurisdiction.