



## **Why is it important for your child to have a medical exam?**

We want to assure you and your child that their bodies are healthy. Even if the abuse occurred months or years before the disclosure, children often have unvoiced worries and concerns about the effects of the abuse on their bodies. The exam can be one more step towards healing for your child.

Your child may have been exposed to sexually transmitted infections that can be easily checked and treated if need be.

For multiple reasons, children often disclose more details to physicians and nurses than they do to law enforcement. This is important in identifying all potential health concerns and again may aid law enforcement in their investigation and prosecution.

We understand that this is probably a stressful time for you and your child. If you have any questions or concerns regarding medical exams, please feel free to call and talk to our family advocate, Jessica Johnson at 616-336-5191.