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## THERE IS NO EXCUSE FOR ABUSE

**Taylorsville, UT** – There is never any reason to abuse a child. Yesterday's report of a Taylorsville man charged with severely injuring his girlfriend's one year old child serves as a reminder of the need for awareness, and more importantly, action, when it comes to protecting children in our community. According to the state's Division of Child and Family Services 9,597 children were victims of child abuse last fiscal year, with 3,550 of those cases occurring in Salt Lake County.

There is no excuse for even the slightest act of child abuse. Help is available. The Family Support Center operates three crisis nurseries in the Salt Lake valley where children up to age 12 may be taken 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. There is no charge for crisis nursery care. The Family Support Center's 24 hour crisis nursery line is 801-967-4259. The agency also provides Anger Management, Parent Education, Step Family, and Domestic Violence survivor classes as well as mental health counseling. There are 12 crisis nurseries across the state from Logan to Cedar City.

Bonnie L. Peters, Executive Director of Family Support Center said, "I am heart-broken every single time I hear about one of these cases. Even after 38 years of providing crisis nurseries in our community we are still seeing babies in ER's who shouldn't be there. No child deserves to be abused. We need to do better as a community. Child abuse persists when those who suffer or others who are aware do not speak out."

Family Support Center hosts a Stroller Walk and pinwheel gardens each April to bring attention to the importance of child abuse prevention in our community. For additional details or to schedule an interview, please use the contact information provided above.

For information regarding the case, please see:

http://www.ksl.com/?sid=38300395&nid=148&title=charges-allege-taylorsville-man-severely-injured-girlfriends-1-year-old-son&s\_cid=queue-9