Who Are Mandated Reporters?
S.C. Code Ann. § 63-7-310 identifies the following professionals as mandated reporters:
• Physicians
• Nurses
• Dentists
• Optometrists
• Coroners
• Medical Examiners
• Employees of Coroners/Medical Examiners
• Any other professional in these fields:
  – Medical
  – Emergency Medical Services
  – Mental Health
  – Allied Health
• School Teachers
• Counselors
• Principals and Assistant Principals
• School Attendance Officers
• Childcare Workers in Childcare Centers or Foster Care Facilities
• Foster Parents
• Police and Law Enforcement Officers
• Juvenile Justice Workers
• Substance Abuse Treatment Staff
• Social Workers
• Public Assistance Workers
• Clergy, including Christian Science Practitioners & Religious Healers (subject to laws governing privileged communication)
• Clerical or Nonclerical Religious Counselors Who Charge for Services
• Undertakers
• Funeral Home Directors
• Employees of Funeral Homes
• Judges
• Volunteer Non-Attorney Guardians ad Litem
• Computer Technicians
• Persons Responsible for Processing Film

However, a person under age 18 is not required to be a mandated reporter.
(S.C. Code Ann. § 63-7-310(F))

When to Report?
Mandated reporters must make a report when information is received in their professional capacity that gives them reason to believe that a child has been or may be abused or neglected.
• Reporting to a supervisor or person in charge of an institution, school, facility, or agency does not relieve a mandated reporter of his individual duty to report.
• The duty to report is not superseded by an internal investigation of an institution, school, facility, or agency.
(S.C. Code Ann. § 63-7-310(A), (C))

Where to Report?
Reports may be made to the county department of social services or to a law enforcement agency in the county where the child resides or is found.
(S.C. Code Ann. § 63-7-310(E))

Failure to Report
A person who is required to report child abuse or neglect and who fails to do so is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not more than $500 or imprisoned not more than six months, or both.
(S.C. Code Ann. § 63-7-410)

Additional Information
For a detailed overview of mandated reporter requirements and how to make a report, see the Mandated Reporter Guide found on the Children's Law Center website at http://childlaw.sc.edu.

To schedule a free training on Mandated Reporting, contact the Children’s Law Center at 803-777-1646.