## WHEN TECHNOLOGY ATTACKS

## **CONTACT US**

530 W. Allegan St. Lansing, MI 48909

877-999-6442

www.michigan.gov/DIFS





## PROTECT YOUR FAMILY FROM CYBER THREATS

Technological advancements make life easier. But, they can come at a cost. Every day it seems like another data breach story hits the news. As individuals and families use more technology, there is a lot at stake when it comes to protecting themselves online.

## AVOID PUTTING YOUR FAMILY AT RISK

- Keeps tabs on your information. Monitor your children's information as well as your own. Partly because of their unused credit and Social Security numbers, children are targeted for identity theft 35 times more often than adults.
- Understand policy terms. Banks and credit card companies typically offer fraud protection, so learn the policy terms. If you keep money in investment accounts, ask your advisors about protection in the event of a security breach.

- Set social limits. Weigh and consider sharing personal information on social media as it could increase vulnerability. The more hackers know about you, the easier it is for them to build data profiles with your information.
- Weigh costs against risks. Some homeowners policies now offer identity theft protection, including access to credit monitoring and repair services in the event of a breach. This coverage may not refund what was lost, but instead cover the costs associated with restoring your personal identity.
- Reconsider fancy features.
   Innovations in automobiles can mean new risks to personal data and safety.

  Before buying that fancy new car, make sure you understand the technology features and how accidents caused by technological malfunctions are covered.

IF YOU ARE EVER UNSURE OF MICHIGAN LAWS, OR NEED TO FILE A COMPLAINT, CONTACT DIFS AT 877-999-6442.