



2015 National Child Abuse Prevention Month

– Local CAC Initiatives –

Eugene, OR – Kids' FIRST Center will be hosting a NFL "Draft Party" Fundraiser at the Hop Valley Brewing Company on April 30th. Accompanied by a raffle and an auction, prizes include two used game balls signed by Heisman Trophy winner Marcus Mariota, LaMichael James and De'Anthony Thomas. All proceeds and one dollar from each pint will be donated to Kids' FIRST whose mission is to provide intervention and advocacy for children who are victims of or witnesses to a crime. For more information and raffle tickets go to: <http://kidsfirstcenter.net/>

Chicago, IL – The Children's Advocacy Center of Illinois will be holding a Legislative Day on April 14th. CAC directors and staff will be able to network with representatives to discuss the importance of CACs throughout the state. Senator Julie Morrison and Representative Michelle Mussman will be in attendance to provide a press conference at 12:30pm at the Capitol; more speakers to be announced at a later date. <http://www.cacionline.org>

Oneonta, AL – Blount County Children's Center has collaborated with Hometown Bank of Alabama and will sponsor four child abuse prevention billboards throughout the county during the month of April. <http://www.blountcountychildrenscenter.org>

East Norriton, PA – Mission Kids Child Advocacy Center of Montgomery County will spread their Child Abuse Prevention message through two events. The first event will be held on April 1st, where the planting of 493 pinwheels will honor the 493 children that were served in 2014. Alongside this event will be a two-sided banner expressing the significance of this planting. The pinwheels and banner will be presented and displayed throughout the month of April. The second event will take place April 30th and it will be MKCAC's 7th annual "Mission Possible" event at The Radisson Valley Forge. This cocktail party and silent auction will spread awareness throughout April. <http://www.missionkidscac.org>

Grand Junction, CO – Western Slope Center for Children will be hosting its "No More Not Alone" Spring Fundraiser on April 18th at the Avalon Theater located in downtown Grand Junction. The event will host activities for all ages and is oriented towards health, safety, and abuse prevention along with two performances of "The Wizard of Oz" by the local Youth Theater Project. <http://www.wscchildren.org>

Little Flock, AR – Children’s Advocacy Center of Benton County will have multiple activities for Child Abuse Prevention Month. On April 1st, the awareness campaign will start with a Cherishing Children Pinwheel Rally, which will include placing pinwheels at local institutions to raise awareness. Food, beverages, and ice cream will be provided, as well as a proclamation read by Judge Clinard and a presentation of awards to community members who were instrumental to the mission of empowering children. Along with the rally and pinwheel activities, the CAC will host their 15th annual Cherishing Children Glow Run. This family-friendly nighttime event includes a 1-Mile Fun Walk, a 400-yard Super Hero Dash, Burpee Mile and a chip-timed 5k Glow Run. The mission is to shine a light on child abuse with a projection of over 1,000 individuals set to attend this awareness/fundraising event. <http://www.cacbentonco.com>

Franklin, NC – KIDS Place plans to place large blue bows on downtown street posts, as well as plant 70 gardens in the community. A local bank will also have 300 pinwheels planted in their very visible garden spot. A local press release will be embargoed soon. <http://www.kidsplacecac.org>

Detroit, MI – The Guidance Center will be planting pinwheels around the county, which will include the 3 District Children’s Protective Services office, in partnership with both local Children’s Trust Fund councils. Children will be provided with pinwheel pages to color when they come in for therapy or forensic interviews starting the first week of April. Blue ribbon pins will also be distributed to MDT. The Guidance Center will also be holding their 5th annual Youth Poetry Slam, bringing awareness to child maltreatment and trauma. <http://www.guidance-center.org>

Shawnee, KS – Sunflower House has planned a month long campaign full of activities ranging from awareness to fundraising events in their community. For the “Child Abuse Prevention” campaign, Danielle will solicit organizations to participate in a weeklong event where staff can wear jeans or other casual dress for only \$5 a day (or \$20 a week) to raise money as well as awareness. The option to purchase a pinwheels and a pinwheel garden will also be available. There will be a multitude of events, starting with Adult Educational Training, which focuses on recognizing the signs of child abuse and neglect.

On April 4th, friends of Sunflower House will set up at the entrance of Nebraska Furniture Mart and will greet shoppers and guests with handmade “Pinwheels for Prevention” and informational fliers. On April 6th, Sunflower House will be stationed at Royal’s parking lot where donations will be collected and photo opportunities with Happy Bear will also be available. Later that same day, the CAC will be a fundraising event at Sombrero’s Mexican Cantina. Sombrero’s has agreed to donate

10 percent of their proceeds from the evening to Sunflower House. A similar agreement was made with Pegah's Family Restaurant for the dates of April 16th and 27th. For more information, go to <http://www.sunflowerhouse.org>

New Haven, CT – The South Central Child Advocacy Center will host its 2nd annual Pinwheel Event on April 1st. The event will host a planting of 85 new pinwheels in the New Haven Green. New Haven Mayor Toni Harp and Ansonia/Milford State's Attorney Kevin Lawlor, will offer their remarks during a ceremony honoring the children served by the SCCAC and the professionals who have dedicated their careers to helping these children and families. Additionally, on April 26th a Pinwheel Garden will be displayed at the 8th Annual *Walk a Mile in Her Shoes* event in Milford. The SCCAC will create a pinwheel display that recognizes Child Abuse Prevention month in each of the 20 other towns served by the SCCAC.

Athens, OH - Athens County Child Advocacy Center is sponsoring a child advocacy awards and recognition event with their local Children Services and CASA/GAL on April 8th to coincide with Wear Blue Day. They will have a keynote speaker from PCSAO and plan to give four awards to outstanding advocates from the community. This is the second year for the event. <http://www.athenscac.org>

Grand Island, NE – Central Nebraska Child Advocacy Center will be involved in a prevention month activities this year. Beginning April 1st, the CAC will distribute a "Stop Child Abuse" postcard to various individuals, partners and businesses increasing awareness of child abuse and requesting on-going monthly financial support to serve these most vulnerable children. Next, Dr. Tom Osborne (former Nebraska Congressman, former Nebraska Athletic Director and Head Football Coach) will be coming to speak to a group of 400 people about community involvement and the need to serve children. Then, as a member of ACAP (Association of Child Abuse and Prevention) Board, the CAC will host an awards banquet to honor those people who have went above and beyond in the field of child abuse services.

Chicago, IL – Chicago Children's Advocacy Center will once again host the "We exist" exhibit on April 1st at Daley Plaza. Large displays across the plaza feature children's, caregivers' and professionals' stories on child sexual and physical abuse, including real stories of children and caregivers served at the center. The exhibit calls on adults to take action to prevent, recognize, respond to and report abuse. View the virtual display at <http://www.chicagocac.org/exist>.

Portland, OR – CARES Northwest is hosting a Pinwheels for Prevention “planting” in the Legacy Emanuel Children’s Garden on April 8th. Students from Boise Eliot Elementary School, their teachers and parents will join in planting 240 vibrant blue and silver pinwheels symbolizing the joy and freedom every child deserves. Dr. Dan Leonhardt, Medical Director of CARES Northwest, will speak about the positive impacts of child abuse prevention and Odelsa Taylor of OAASIS (Oregon Abuse Advocates and Survivors in Service) will speak about how everyone can help protect children. <http://www.caresnw.org>

Berlin, MD – The Cricket Center is hosting their 2nd Annual Walk The Boards For Kids on April 26th. The walk stretches down the town’s fabulous boardwalk along the Atlantic Ocean side of Ocean City, Maryland. The walk coincides with the local Kite Fest and sand soccer tournaments so there is a lot of traffic on the Boardwalk that day. The CAC will be able to reach hundreds of people and distribute information on child abuse and prevention. <http://www.thecricketcenter.com>

Oregon City, OR – Children’s Center will launch its second year campaign around Child Abuse Prevention Month. Throughout April, Children’s Center volunteers will hand out nearly 20,000 pinwheels, 10,000 informational postcards, and engage in critical conversations with shoppers at Clackamas Town Center. Additionally, Children’s Center volunteer speaker’s bureau will present at more than five community groups including Kiwanis, Rotary, and Optimist clubs. Board members will make presentations at Child Abuse Prevention Month proclamation readings at eight city council meetings within Clackamas County.

Also, Executive Director Barbara Peschiera will be interviewed for Clear Channel Radio & iHeart Media Les Schwab Community Promise. The interview will be edited into a series of PSAs shared the first week in April. Barbara will participate in a discussion with John Erickson on the iHeart Media Community Affairs Show to discuss child abuse as a health epidemic. Finally, Barbara will participate in interviews with Portland Radio Project and Metro East to continue to raise awareness about child abuse in our community.

Lastly, as part of the Board’s commitment to launching a prevention program, they will be hosting Darkness to Light *Stewards of Children* trainings on April 20th and 27th. Both trainings are open to the public. <http://www.childrenscenter.cc>

Brewster, NY – Child Advocacy Center of Putnam County has “Protecting Our Children” workshops set up for April 27th at Lakeview Elementary School. This workshop will be open to the public. Additionally, the CAC will distribute a press release encouraging individuals and organizations to play a role in making Putnam County a better place for children and families. <http://www.putnamcountyny.com>

Jefferson City, MO – Missouri KidsFirst will be hosting their 6th Annual Pinwheels for Prevention Community Pinwheel Garden at the Missouri State Capitol on April 14th. At the ceremony, Missouri KidsFirst will present the *Standing with Children Award* honoring legislators that have stood up to protect Missouri's children. Lincoln University's Groove Dynasty Drum line will be there to celebrate the hope, health and happiness that pinwheels represent for children.
<http://www.missourikidsfirst.org>

Austin, TX – As the state's Chapter Organization, **Children's Advocacy Centers of Texas** is directing child abuse prevention month activities for its 68 member CACs. CACTX has created a toolkit for April with materials available to share including video links, graphics and articles. CACTX will also distribute free customizable yard signs and static cling stickers for CACs to share with local businesses and partner agencies. Additionally, they plan to pitch media outlets across the state, specifically to the Latino media, with CAC directors as the main contact. This effort is to support Latino outreach through the "Courage to Report" initiative. <http://www.cactx.org>

El Dorado, KS – The Sunlight Child Advocacy Center will begin April by kicking off their Blue Ribbon Campaign, "Every Child Matters." Activities include the following: distributing over 450 informational packets to businesses, schools and religious organizations; collaborating with Butler Community College; setting up 16 informational tables throughout the 13th Judicial District; displaying blue ribbons and Pinwheels throughout the counties; and creating prevention bookmarks for each local library to use along with the displays they are creating to promote the campaign.

Additionally, a tag line will be included in El Dorado's utility bill for April announcing Child Abuse Awareness Month. Several cities within the county are promoting the CAC's information on their local city channels, with City Mayors and community leaders including a Proclamation of Child Abuse Awareness Month in their commissions and council meetings. Plus, local law enforcement and fire departments will be showing their support by tying blue ribbons on their vehicles. Lastly, the CAC will utilize their own annual Sticker Campaign in order to raise awareness and funds for services, and support the cause through social media.
www.scarfks.org

Boise, ID – CARES St. Lukes Children's Hospital will host the First Annual Idaho Child Abuse Prevention Rally on the steps of the Idaho State Capitol on April 8th. The Governor has signed a Proclamation declaring April as Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month in Idaho, and the Lt. Governor will be reading the Proclamation at

the rally. At the event, CARES will have community leaders speaking about child abuse awareness and prevention, local middle and high school teens taking part in awareness activities, and child and family advocacy organizations educating about the services they provide. A dynamic local news anchor will be MC'ing the event! <http://www.stlukesonline.org>

Charleston, WV – West Virginia Child Advocacy Network will host two press conferences in April, with Greg Carter, Princeton-based WVVA news anchor, sharing his story about surviving child abuse. The first will be in Charleston on April 8th at the Schoenbaum Center, and the next will be in Princeton on April 14th at the Chuck Mathena Center. Greg Carter will also record a 30-second radio ad to be aired every day in April on WV Radio Corporation stations throughout the state.

Additionally, WVCAN is hosting an Art Auction to raise awareness and funds on April 18th. The organization is also encouraging TV stations to run the “One With Courage” ad from two years ago as a PSA, and will be attempting to get press coverage from various media sources throughout April. <http://www.wvcn.org>

New Port Richey, FL – Pasco Kids First, Inc. Children’s Advocacy Center is organizing Child Abuse Prevention Month presentations for all five offices and 200 staff members involved with the CAC. They will also be planting pinwheel gardens at each of the five offices plus their local Cadence Bank to raise awareness. All staff at these six locations have received blue ribbon lapel pins. They will also give out Prevent Child Abuse car magnets, blue ribbon pins or pinwheels to anyone who makes a donation. <http://www.pascokidsfirst.org>

Pierre, SD – Central South Dakota Child Assessment Center is hosting its 3rd annual Stand Up to Child Abuse 5K on Saturday, April 25th, starting at the Discovery Center in Pierre, SD. This event, held annually during National Child Abuse Prevention month, is to bring awareness of the community’s response to child abuse and neglect. The event is sponsored by Central South Dakota Child Assessment Center, as a department of Avera St. Mary’s Hospital and partner agency to Capital Area United Way; SD Discovery Center; and Pierre Area Running Club. The “Spirit Award” will be given to the participant/agency member who displays the most participation or “spirit” during the event. <http://southdakota.nationalchildrensalliance.org>

Canyon County, ID – Nampa Family Justice Center is partnering with St. Luke’s CARES in Boise, ID to put on the 1st Annual Child Abuse Prevention Rally on Wednesday April 8th. On April 10th, the Canyon County Commissioners and local officials will make a proclamation in recognition of Blue Day & Child Abuse

Awareness and On Saturday, April 11th, the organization will put on a Superhero/Child Abuse Awareness March where local kids and adults will be invited to wear a superhero costume or blue and march from the Caldwell Police Department to the County Courthouse. Participants will then plant the pinwheels in the Courthouse lawn, which will remain throughout the month of April. Any remaining pinwheels will be given to other law enforcement agencies and the Nampa Family Justice Center so they can also display their support throughout the month.

Marietta, GA – SafePath Children’s Advocacy Center is hosting a number of activities during the month of April in honor of National Child Abuse Prevention Month. All month long, SafePath’s *It’s Time to Talk* hour-long educational program will air on the Cobb County Government Access channel, sharing information with the community on how to recognize, respond and prevent child abuse. In addition, SafePath is partnering with the Junior League of Cobb Marietta to provide free Stewards of Children training sessions on child sexual abuse prevention and intervention work, as well as hosting the Engaging Communities Kickoff Celebration – bringing together community members, crime victims and survivors, and elected officials to celebrate and honor the month of April. And on April 25, SafePath will serve as the nonprofit beneficiary of the LGE Community Outreach Foundation annual 5K Run/Walk. SafePath will be on-site at the event to provide “pinwheels for prevention” and information about child abuse intervention and prevention work.