

# April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

## *Ideas For Mayors, Elected Officials and Community Leaders*

### **Proclaim April as Child Abuse Prevention Month.**

Use the sample language available at [www.preventchildabuseNJ.org](http://www.preventchildabuseNJ.org) for a proclamation in your community. Host a community event to announce the proclamation and invite the press. Tell them why you believe in keeping children safe and nurtured.

### **Publically congratulate a parent on doing a good job.**

Let parents in your community know that their child is a product of their good parenting. Praising parents raises their self-esteem and reinforces their commitment to family.

### **Distribute materials that educate and support families in public**

**places.** Parenting is tough work! It is important to let families know that you support the love, devotion and healthy discipline they offer their children. Make parenting education and tips widely accessible in your community.

### **Plant a pinwheel garden in front of your public office.**

Pinwheels are a sign of happy, carefree childhoods; the kind that every kid under your watch deserves to experience. Prevent Child Abuse-NJ (1-800-CHILDREN) offers the materials to plant a garden of pinwheels and post a sign celebrating your commitment to children.

### **Wear a pinwheel label pin during the month of April.**

The pinwheel is your pledge to the prevention of child abuse throughout the month of April. When people ask about it, tell them why you believe in creating a community that cares for children.

### **Invite a child advocate to speak.**

Educate your community about the progress of programs and policies that support families and strengthen communities.

### **Host a family-friendly event.**

Anything from a kickball game, to a dance or a pancake breakfast will bring families together. Events can also raise dollars to support programs that ensure children are kept safe and nurtured.

**Anything that you do** to support children, parents, grandparents and caregivers in your community helps strengthen families and reduce the likelihood of abuse and neglect.



Pinwheels for  
**PREVENTION**<sup>®</sup>



**Prevent Child Abuse**  
New Jersey

[www.preventchildabuseNJ.org](http://www.preventchildabuseNJ.org)

1.800.children