

# Join effort to prevent child abuse

To the Editor:

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. This is a state-wide campaign to raise awareness about supporting families and preventing child abuse.

Each April, New Jersey makes a promise to prevention by distributing pinwheels and hosting educational events throughout the state. Pinwheels are a symbol of a happy, carefree childhood — the kind that every child in New Jersey deserves.

The consequences of child abuse in New Jersey are both devastating and costly. For the past five years, there have been at least 4,500 calls of suspected child abuse to the state hotline each month. In 2008, there were 47,000 children under state supervision because it was determined that their health and safety were at risk. One-

third of these children were under the age of five. Today, a child is abused in New Jersey every hour.

It's your turn to help! Prevent Child Abuse New Jersey ([www.preventchildabusej.org](http://www.preventchildabusej.org)) can provide activity ideas, tools and educational materials to help support a campaign in your community.

Plant a pinwheel garden, host an event or help a new mom. Together we can all support our families and prevent child abuse. Everyone deserves a chance for a safe and happy childhood.

**AMY KLEIN**  
 Development Associate,  
 Prevent Child Abuse New Jersey  
[outreach@preventchildabusej.org](mailto:outreach@preventchildabusej.org)

