I-800-CHILDREN HELPLINE TO LAUNCH

FEBRUARY 26

We are excited to announce that the 1-800 CHILDREN Helpline will begin taking calls on February 26! In partnership with the Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition of Georgia, the Helpline will operate Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and can provide callers with information about parenting support, community resources, counseling services, referrals for legal needs, and can address other concerns about the well-being of a child.

Unlike the Department of Family and Children Services (DFCS) statewide centralized intake number, the Helpline is not a number to call in crisis or when making a report of child abuse or neglect.

Look for more information in the coming weeks and details about how you can help promote the Helpline in your community. If your agency has a community resource guide, we would love to include it in our Helpline resource database! Please send the document or the link to Darcy Olsen at dolsen2@student.gsu.edu.

PINWHEELS FOR PREVENTION 2014: ORDER NOW!

April is just around the corner! To prepare for National Child Abuse Prevention Month, your organization can begin planning an awareness event such as the planting of a pinwheel garden. To purchase pinwheels from PCA Georgia contact Roddey Jones at wjones37@student.gsu.edu for information about pricing and shipping. Orders will be taken until February 28 to allow for sufficient shipping time. To find out more about Pinwheels for Prevention, visit www.pinwheelsforprevention.org.

If your organization has child abuse prevention events or activities planned for April, please send details to Roddey Jones at wjones37@student.gsu.edu so that we can include your information in a statewide calendar.

KAPPA DELTA AT KSU SUPPORTS CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT PREVENTION IN GEORGIA

PCA Georgia is grateful for the support of the Eta Omega Chapter of Kappa Delta Sorority at Kennesaw State University for their recent donation of more than $8,000 dedicated to child abuse and neglect prevention efforts in Georgia. These funds were raised at the chapter’s Shamrock Run fundraiser last year and presented to PCA Georgia at the KSU campus on February 9, 2014.

If you would like to support PCA Georgia, please consider making a tax-deductible donation today. Click here to make an online donation or mail a check to PO Box 3995 Atlanta, GA 30302.
RESOURCES AND TRAINING

**Governor’s Office for Children and Families:** FREE Online Mandated Reporter Training. [Click here to access.](#)

**Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta:** CHOA is hosting 4 FREE multidisciplinary webinars this Spring, including “Preventing Abuse and Neglect in Children with Developmental Disabilities “ on February 27. The webinar will discuss children with developmental disabilities and highlight how they are more vulnerable to abuse and neglect. [Click here to register.](#) Also check again soon to register for “Mandated Reporting of Child Abuse in Georgia: Your role in recognizing and responding to suspicion of maltreatment” on Thursday, March 20 and “Introduction to Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Programs” on Tuesday, April 15. Save the date for CHO-A’s Child Abuse and Neglect Mini-Conference to be held on April 24 at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta at Scottish Rite.

**Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta and the Governor’s Office for Children and Families:** Web-based training series for Georgia healthcare professionals on child sex trafficking. [Click here to register.](#)

**Darkness to Light:** [Click to view a list](#) of upcoming “Stewards of Children” child sexual abuse prevention trainings.

**National Youth-at-Risk Center and the College for Continuing Education at Georgia Southern University:** The 2014 National Youth-at-Risk Conference will be held March 2-5 in Savannah, Georgia at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. For registration details, visit [www.nationalyouthatrisk.org](http://www.nationalyouthatrisk.org). [Click here for a flyer.](#)

**American Psychological Association:** "Healthy Development Summit II: Changing Frames and Expanding Partnerships to Promote Children's Mental Health and Social/Emotional Development". [Read the full report here.](#)

**University of Georgia Cooperative Extension:** Five “Healthy Relationship and Marriage Education Training” workshops will be offered throughout the state from April to August. Visit [http://www.gamarriages.org/](http://www.gamarriages.org/) for more information. To view a flyer, [click here.](#)

**Voices for Georgia’s Children:** Take a moment to read “Childhood Trauma: Discussion and Policy Solutions,” which provides an overview of the long-lasting effects of trauma on children as well as how policy surrounding early intervention, early care and education, after-school programs, foster care, and more can be shaped to reduce the effects of trauma on children and youth. [Click here to read.](#)

**The Fanning Institute:** Leadership Development for non-profit professionals. Upcoming workshops include “Ethical Leadership” on February 27 and “Embracing Diversity and Cultural Competence” on March 27. The Fanning Institute is also hosting “The State of Child Welfare in Georgia: Understanding the Opportunities and Challenges,” a free event with Melissa Carter, Director of the Barton Law and Child Policy Center on March 26 at the University of Georgia Chapel in Athens, Georgia. [Click here for more information.](#)

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**WHAT’ S NEW WITH YOU?**

We want to hear from you! Please send us any recent news or activities from your community to include in our next newsletter.

**E-mail items to:** wjones37@student.gsu.edu
UPDATES FROM UNDER THE GOLD DOME

Our friends at Voices for Georgia’s Children send out weekly updates about bills affecting children and families. Below are three bills related to child maltreatment that may be of interest to you or your organization. Click the links to find out more.

- **HB 771** (Spencer-180th) Removes the statute of limitations for civil actions to recover damages for childhood sexual abuse. This would commence with the enactment of this legislation (it would not be retroactive). Status: House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

- **HB 804** (Lindsey-54th) The court may order a child to testify via closed-circuit television outside of the presence of the person accused, if the court finds that the child is likely to suffer serious psychological or emotional distress as a result of testifying in the presence of the accused. Status: House Judiciary Non-Civil.

- **HB 914** (Wilkerson-38th) School personnel who report suspected child abuse will be notified that the report was received and at the end of the investigation, they will be notified as to whether the report of abuse was confirmed or not. Status: House Juvenile Justice committee

For a full update on all bills affecting children and families, read Voices’ most recent legislative update [by clicking here](#).