CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION ACROSS THE STATE

PCA Georgia hosted a campus awareness event and fundraiser at Georgia State University. Pictured above is Jyll Walsh and Lia Scott, both students who helped with the fundraiser. This was just one of many events happening across the state. PCA Athens, Lamar, and Habersham, Greater North Atlanta Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc., along with many other local affiliates all held Pinwheels for Prevention events. Click here for a link to the photos.

MAY IS NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH

May is National Foster Care month. This year, 400,000 children are in foster care, more than 100,000 wait to be adopted, and more than 24,000 will age out of foster care. The Children’s Bureau has launched a website with this year’s theme “Building Blocks Toward Permanent Families.” The website offers resources for supporting permanence through reunification, kinship care, guardianship, and adoption, including resources specifically geared toward foster parents and youth. Click here for the link.

Want to get involved? You can:
- View this year’s resources about "Building Blocks Toward Permanent Families"
- Add a link to your email signature or a widget to your website
- Share the FAQ handout with colleagues at meetings and conferences
- Get inspired by real-life stories from families, youth, foster parents, caseworkers, and others
- Check out the outreach tools offered in the Promote section

SAVE THE DATE!
Prevent Child Abuse Georgia Conference
September 11, 2014
Atlanta Marriott, Century Center

WE NEED YOUR RESOURCE GUIDES!

An essential component of the 1-800-CHILDREN Helpline is the resource database. We want the database to be as complete and comprehensive as possible to best serve your community.

Do you have a community resource guide? If so, we would love to see it! Please send the document or link to Lia Scott at lscott19@student.gsu.edu
NEWS FROM PCA AMERICA

On April 16th, Prevent Child Abuse America debuted the 2014 Big Pinwheel Garden at Gateway Park at the Navy Pier in Chicago, IL, in honor of April as Child Abuse Prevention month. Mayor Rahm Emanuel (pictured right) headlined the event and was joined by City of Chicago Alderman Mary O'Connor, Prevent Child Abuse America President and CEO Jim Hmurovich and PCA Illinois Executive Director Roy Harley.

"We have a responsibility as a city to ensure that every single child in Chicago is able to grow up in a healthy, safe environment," said Mayor Rahm Emanuel. The Chicago Big Pinwheel Garden followed the New York event as a signature event of the Pinwheels for Prevention campaign, through which PCA America has distributed over 3.5 million pinwheels nationwide since April 2008.

POST LEGISLATIVE SESSION: GEORGIA'S CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY NETWORK

Join Voices for Georgia's Children and Georgia Children's Advocacy Network (GA-CAN!) for the first Post-Session GA-CAN, on Thursday, May 15th. From 10:30am—12:00 pm at the Blue Room at the Freight Depot

This is a free event, but please register here.

Confirmed panelists include: Erin Hames, Governor Deal's Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy; Katie Rogers, Governor Deal's Health Policy Advisor; Stephanie Blank, Child Advocate, Chair of the Child Welfare Reform Council, founder of the Georgia Early Education Alliance for Ready Students (GEEARS)

Great news! Prevent Child Abuse Georgia (PCA Georgia) has been granted full charter status by Prevent Child Abuse America (PCAA). When PCA Georgia reopened at Georgia State University, we were given a provisional charter and had two years to complete the charter process. In fall 2013, we completed a comprehensive self-assessment and two-day site visit with PCA America staff and were recently informed that we had successfully implemented PCAA’s required criteria to further our commitment to communities statewide by creating, healthy, nurturing environments for children and families.

SAVE THE DATE!

Georgia Conference on Children and Families
November 18-20, 2014
Hilton Atlanta Marietta Hotel & Conference Center
For more information, click here.
RESOURCES AND TRAINING

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

Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta: [Click here to register] for the free webinar “Mandated Reporting of Child Abuse in Georgia: Your role in recognizing and responding to suspicion of maltreatment” on May 28 at 1pm.

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.

University of Georgia Cooperative Extension: Five “Healthy Relationship and Marriage Education Training” workshops will be offered throughout the state from April to August. The next workshop is May 13 in Columbus, GA. Visit [http://www.gamarriages.org/] for more information. To view a flyer, [click here.]

Strengthening Families: “How Strengthening Families Aligns With the Head Start Parent, Family and Community Engagement Framework” is available online. [Click here to read.]


I-800-CHILDREN HELPLINE LAUNCHED!

The 1-800-CHILDREN Helpline launched on February 26, 2014 and provides information and referral services for parents, caregivers and professionals interested in parenting, child maltreatment prevention and the healthy development of children.

Upcoming efforts will focus on increasing call volume by marketing the Helpline, continuing to build the resource database, verifying existing resources and assessing service and geographic gaps. [Click here for more information about the Helpline.]

PCA Georgia will begin distributing promotional materials (rack cards and bookmarks) for the helpline at the end of this month. Contact Jyll Walsh at jwalsh10@student.gsu.edu for more information.