



Our Mission

To provide education, support, and training programs
to make Pennsylvania safe for children.

Our Vision

For all children to grow and thrive
free from abuse and neglect.

Yes, it was a different year. **Yes, it was a difficult year – for everyone.**

Certainly, it was a year beyond all routine, and it has been described in more ways than we can count. Long-standing family celebrations – marriages, graduations, housewarmings, family reunions – all of them changed, so many of them missed, or becoming “private” and coming with a card that promised a time together sometime after the event.

No doubt about it: COVID changed our social life, our family life, our work life, and nearly everything else. **At PA Family Support Alliance (PFSA), our mission and our work became more important than ever, yet our operations could not, and did not, continue as they always had been.**

As with everything else during the pandemic, we had to say goodbye to a few things (in-person training and program services) and look anew at how to maximize efficiencies while containing cost. We restructured our staffing, reviewed all operating practices, and advanced the use of technology as we never had before.

As a smaller, yet better equipped staff, we learned to communicate in more meaningful ways and about issues that also have more meaning. In other words, the loss of tradition brought a level of strong intentionality. Perhaps much like in your own relationships, PFSA placed a stronger focus this year on building and strengthening relationships. We placed quality of relationships over quantity of connections. So, what was the impact?





Throughout the year, PFSA stayed in close contact with agencies serving children and families statewide. These **Community Based Child Abuse Prevention Agencies** received weekly resources from PFSA for their staff — ready for use *with* and *by* parents. These resources provided best practices for establishing routines, talking with children about the pandemic, safety protocols, self-care while parenting, and so much more.

We applaud the thousands of professionals statewide who demonstrated incredible creativity, dedication, and flexibility in giving parents concrete support, resources, and a great deal of cheerleading during the pandemic.

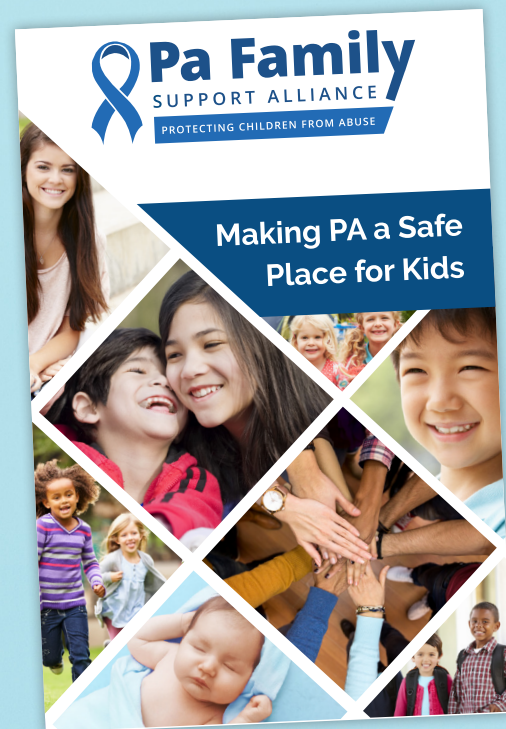
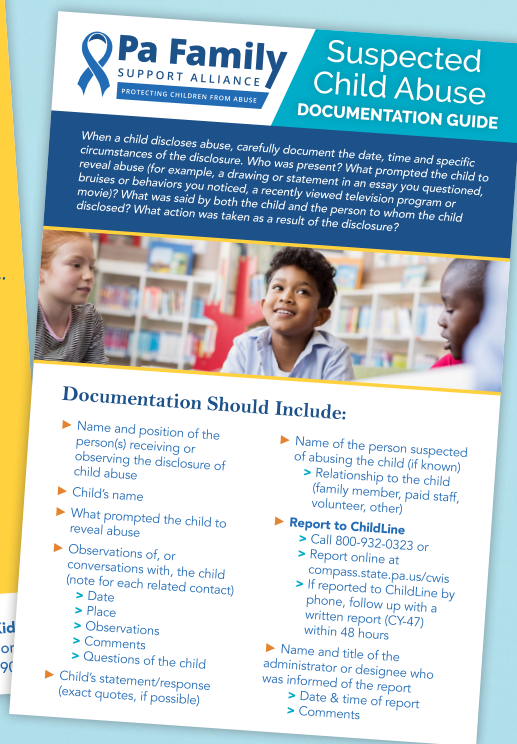
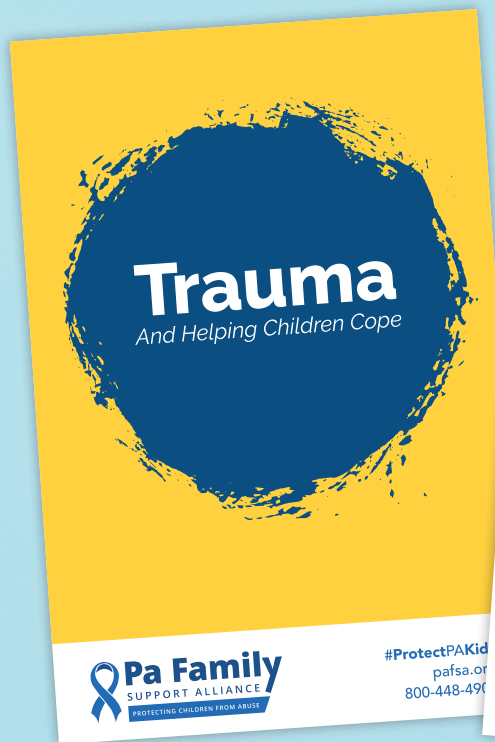
PFSA's fall **Child Abuse Prevention Symposium**, as well as all events and activities for Child Abuse Prevention Month, were held virtually. To our surprise and gratitude, we experienced record number participation and learned that the message of protecting children from harm can be conveyed with a resounding virtual voice.

We thank our sponsors, partners and those who participated to learn how they can best engage as part of the solution to child abuse.

Members of the General Assembly joined elected and appointed state leaders in promoting messages of child protection by offering their voices and social media platforms.

Never has this been more critical than during the pandemic, when state child abuse data reflected a record number of fatalities and near fatalities of children — many due to neglect directly linked to poor supervision and ingestion of prescription or over the counter medication — just to name a few examples. Our children needed the eyes, ears, and hearts of family members, neighbors, and concerned citizens.

To better spread PFSA's message of prevention, we continued to work with our media partners in television, radio, and newspaper outlets statewide. They were invaluable messengers in providing parents



with helpline information as well as mandated reporters and community members a linkage to PFSA for training and step-by-step assistance on recognizing and reporting child abuse.

Our PFSA team spent countless hours working with website developers to launch a “new and improved” website with enhanced functionality related to online training, e-commerce, videos, and specialized information portals for agencies linked to PFSA and our governing board of directors. Take a moment and stop by to visit www.pafsa.org.

Our focus on intentional infrastructure development brought greater efficiency as a smaller staff was able to provide services to a larger number of stakeholders. A long-awaited custom learning management system was finalized. This advanced use of technology streamlines management of the training process — from registration through to the verification of continuing educational units for the PA Dept. of State and others. Likewise, a new server, coupled with all team members

receiving new computer equipment facilitated efficiency during the prolonged time of remote working.

In the pages ahead, you will see how PFSA’s acclaimed **Mandated Reporter Training Program** expanded with the introduction of two new training curricula. “*Responding to Disclosures of Child Abuse*” prepares mandated reporters on how to respond with confidence when a child says they have been harmed. Participants learn what questions to ask, ones to avoid, and the importance of not “tainting” the investigative process.

In partnership with the PA Dept. of Human Services and the private provider community at large, PFSA developed a specialized curricula for professionals working within residential treatment facilities to succinctly outline those situations that are recordable and reportable with the steps related to communication and documentation.

These new initiatives are designed to build upon the introductory/general mandated



reporter training — all while increasing child protection efforts and increasing the efficiency of the child welfare system with respect to reporting and child abuse investigations.

PFSA has never been about providing training just to help others check off a compliance box. We've always been about the true substance of learning because that is what prevents child abuse!

Expansion also occurred with our governing board as five new members were recruited and welcomed to help advance the mission of PFSA. These individuals are highly respected professionals within their field of expertise, and we sought them out for both their skill set and dedication to children; a winning combination for making PFSA a strong and evolving voice for children and families.

Board members worked closely with staff, and several of our strategic partners to

build a three-year strategic plan, beginning in 2021 and concluding in fiscal year 2024. The identified strategic pillars are aggressive and are sure to help parents and children throughout the commonwealth.

And finally, it was also a very different year from a public policy perspective. **Our team weighed-in on numerous pieces of proposed child welfare legislation, supported the policy efforts of strategic partners, and continued to educate and advocate to leadership within the General Assembly.**

However, a significant amount of effort went to support federal legislation, that when passed, benefits Pennsylvania's child welfare system and families.

We communicated consistently with members of Congress to ensure the re-authorization of the **Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act**, federal legislation that allocates federal

child welfare funds to each state. We supported the leadership of the Children's Trust Fund Alliance and Prevent Child Abuse America in the successful passage of the **American Relief Act** that provided one-time emergency funds via **Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA)** and **Community Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP)** funding streams.

When passed, we formulated and organized suggestions for leadership within PA Dept. of Human Services. As a result, we eagerly await the opportunities that are ahead for additional program expansion at PFSA.

So, yes, it was a different year. It was a difficult year. But it was a positive year in so many ways! The team at PFSA has never been stronger, never more capable, agile, or dedicated to PFSA's mission and those we serve. They proved time and time again, that despite circumstances, our focus and dedication is supporting families and protecting children from harm.

Most of us have come through the pandemic to date because of our "tribe," those tried-and-true loyalists who sometimes laugh with us and stand ready to cry beside us when necessary.

We would be remiss if we did not acknowledge the tribe that has kept PFSA pointed toward our north star — safe, joy-filled children.

A very big thank you to:

- ▶ PFSA's in-house staff (Haven, Justin, Rosa, Crista, and David)
- ▶ Our child welfare expert trainers
- ▶ The 400+ organizational trainers who teach others how to keep kids safe
- ▶ Staff working in the CBCAP agencies
- ▶ Staff at OCYF
- ▶ And last, but never least, the crew at Ceisler Media and Issue Advocacy, The Vander Group, and Bitsy+Design.

Here is to another year ahead of meaning-filled opportunities and achievements!



Angela M. Liddle

Angela Liddle, MPA
PRESIDENT & CEO



Michael J. Gaines

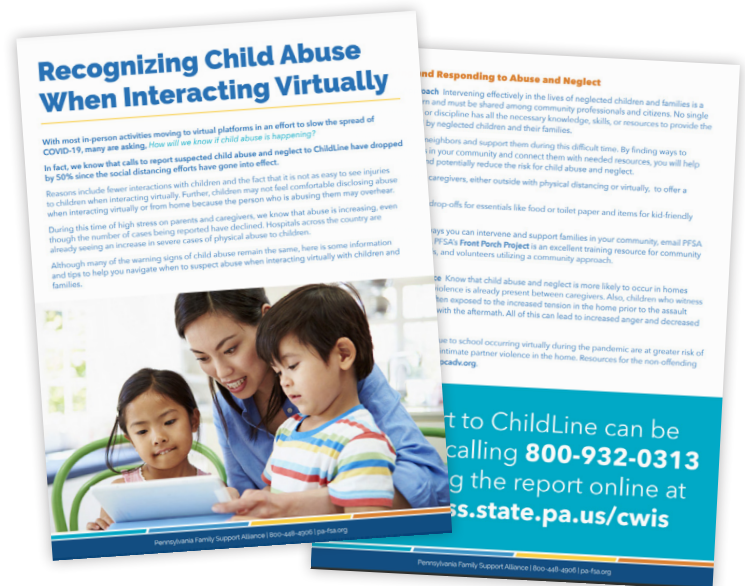
Michael Gaines, MBA
BOARD CHAIR

Child Abuse & Neglect Impact and Response During the Pandemic

An unintended consequence to social distancing, and schools moving to virtual learning as we sought to slow the spread of COVID-19, was a decrease in professionals reporting suspected child abuse and neglect. This decrease was as high as 50% at the height of the pandemic and averaged around 20% fewer calls for most of the 20-21 school year.

Reasons for this decrease included fewer interactions with children and the simple fact that it is not as easy to see injuries on children when interacting virtually. Additionally, children may not feel comfortable disclosing abuse when interacting virtually, or from home, if the person who is abusing them could overhear.

Unfortunately, a reason for the decrease WAS NOT a decrease in the occurrence of child abuse and neglect. **In fact, we know that severe cases of abuse actually increased during this time**, evidenced by an increase in severe cases of physical abuse of children being seen at hospitals across the nation. Although many of the warning signs of child abuse remained the same, we identified that professionals working with children needed help navigating when to suspect abuse while interacting with children virtually.



PFSA responded to this need by creating and widely distributing a document titled **Recognizing Child Abuse When Interacting Virtually** to provide tangible tips and guidance for recognizing child abuse and neglect in this mainly virtual world during the pandemic.

This document was distributed by PFSA to all **CBCAP agencies** and was covered in all Mandated Reporter Trainings. It was sent out by the Department of Human Services via their distribution network, and schools were asked to distribute to their staff.

PFSA also stayed in close contact with agencies serving children and families statewide and switched all trainings and programs to virtual formats. **Our support and services to our networks across the state continued despite the pandemic.**



PFSA's Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) Network

At the center of PFSA's mission sits the family-serving, community-based organizations across Pennsylvania that we have had the privilege to partner with over the years. The **Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) Network** is a diverse network of local organizations, providing a wide range of prevention services and programs to anyone who may be in a parenting or caregiver role.

These partnering organizations create a strong and united statewide network that, together, promotes positive, safe, and healthy family development within the local communities. PFSA is proud to provide support and resources for this network year after year, including professional development opportunities, technical assistance, programming expansion, and a variety of resources for local families and communities. This ongoing relationship helps to create a positive impact on caregivers, families, and children all across the commonwealth.

Collaboration and Support

PFSA works with individual CBCAP agencies on a variety of collaborative projects, virtual programming, relevant publications, and resources, as well as remote learning webinars and training opportunities. All of this effort supports the pathway toward a safe and healthy future for Pennsylvania families and children.

This past year, PFSA provided monthly professional development webinars for the CBCAP Network ranging on a variety of topics such as LGBTQ+ acceptance, addiction and

recovery, adverse childhood experience, racism within child welfare, mandated reporter training, and much more! CBCAP Network agencies were also presented with weekly emails including resources on specific topics for families.

Many of these communications centered around the COVID-19 pandemic, with updates on federal and state guidance as well as practical resources for addressing the varying challenges of the pandemic. Additionally, technical assistance was provided as an ongoing support related to prevention program delivery, and PFSA conducted virtual site visits to better assist individual CBCAP agencies.

Looking Ahead

PFSA remains focused on the heart of what makes the CBCAP Network valuable, which is the building and sustaining of positive relationships. This is more important now, following the impacts of the pandemic, than ever before. That is why PFSA has been diligent in producing better methods for breaking down barriers to program expansion and access to vital resources in order to better serve and support our CBCAP members.





In the upcoming year, PFSA plans to produce and provide more learning opportunities, more support, and more resources to the CBCAP Network — all with much easier accessibility and convenience for our members.

While it was a year of many changes, one thing that remains unchanged is PFSA's dedication and commitment to the CBCAP Network and the parents, caregivers, children, and families that they serve.

What are members saying about the CBCAP Network?

"We have always utilized the mandated reporter training from PFSA. But we really appreciate and find value in all of the information that comes out from the CBCAP Network - it's helpful and relevant."

—Angela Seibert
EOTC / Scranton Outreach Center for
Community Resources

"The biggest benefit I get from the CBCAP Network is the training and webinars. I also receive brochures and publications, which is very helpful at any given time. Overall, it's a great resource to have."

—Elizabeth Montgomery
Child Advocates of Blair County

BY THE NUMBERS

Number of Member Agencies	37
Regions Served	4
Number of Agency Counties Served	28
Number of Training Webinars Held	9
Number of Site Visits / Program Development Visits (Virtual)	17
Number of Educational / Awareness Events	2
Number of Resource Mailings Distributed	50
Number of Monthly Newsletters Distributed	12

"I think the monthly webinar topics are very relevant to our agency...I really enjoyed the most recent one focused on addiction."

—Carla Clark
Northumberland County Family Center

"These workshops are relevant and valuable training opportunities for members. We also find value in the hard copy brochures and publications provided."

—Teresa Guaglianone
Children's Aid Society of Clearfield County

CBCAP Network Directory

Central Region

Bedford-Fulton Head Start
Bedford | Bedford County

Beginnings, Inc.
Johnstown | Cambria County

Blueprints for Addiction Recovery
Elizabethtown | Lancaster County

Trinity Farms Center for Healing
Boswell | Somerset County

Capital Area Head Start
Harrisburg | Dauphin County

Child Advocates of Blair County
Altoona | Blair County

**Children's Advocacy Center
of Centre County**
Bellefonte | Centre County

Fulton County Family Partnership
McConnellsburg | Fulton County

Infant Development Program
Lock Haven | Clinton County

Lehman Center – Children's Aid Society
York | York County

Northumberland County Family Center
Sunbury | Northumberland County

**Roman Catholic Diocese of
Altoona-Johnstown**
Altoona | Blair County

State Correctional Institution (SCI) Muncy
Muncy | Lycoming County

Tri-County Community Action
Harrisburg | Dauphin County

Northeast Region

Clinical Outcomes Group, Inc.
Northumberland | Schuylkill

EOTC/Scranton Area Family Center
Scranton | Lackawanna County

Family Connection of Easton
Easton | Northampton County

**Family Service Association of Northeastern
Pennsylvania**
Wilkes-Barre | Luzerne County

Luzerne County Head Start
Wilkes-Barre | Luzerne

Pinebrook Family Answers
Allentown | Lehigh County

**The Institute for Human Resources &
Services**
Kingston | Luzerne County

Southeast Region

Catholic Social Services Philadelphia
Philadelphia | Philadelphia County

CORA Services
Philadelphia | Philadelphia County

Family Service Association of Bucks County
Langhorne | Bucks County

Western Region

CARE Center of Indiana County
Indiana | Indiana County

Center for Family Services
Meadville | Crawford County

Children's Aid Society of Clearfield County
Clearfield | Clearfield County

Erie Family Center

Erie | Erie County

Forest-Warren Human Services

Warren | Warren County

Greene County Family Center

Waynesburg | Greene County

Holy Family Institute

Ford City | Armstrong County

Lydia's Place

Pittsburgh | Allegheny County

Monessen Family Center

Monessen | Westmoreland County

Potter County Human Services

Roulette | Potter County

Quehanna Boot Camp

Karthus | Clearfield County

SCI Cambridge Springs

Cambridge Springs | Crawford County

Wesley Family Services Greensburg

Greensburg | Westmoreland County

PFSA Prevention Programs

Families in Recovery

The **Families in Recovery** program continues to grow, with five new sites onboarding this past year, despite the onset of various limitations imposed by the pandemic. These new sites became linked to the program through the recent Train-the-Trainer model that was implemented in 2019.

Additionally, several of the 29 original pilot sites continued to deliver the Families in Recovery program throughout the year to parents and families in their communities. PFSA staff provided ongoing support virtually for all sites and facilitators, with a primary focus on the areas of:

- ▶ Facilitator training
- ▶ Program implementation
- ▶ Data collection
- ▶ Model fidelity
- ▶ Technical assistance

As many sites begin to increase delivery of Families in Recovery, PFSA prepares to expand support for all sites and facilitators.

In addition to quarterly learning opportunities and annual refreshers, PFSA will also prepare for a formal implementation evaluation of the program working with the team of experts with the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Policy Lab, beginning in fiscal year 21-22.

This evaluation process will allow for a comprehensive collection of specific data, highlighting areas where more acute support and resources are needed for successful program implementation across sites.

STATS

- ▶ 35 Total Sites
- ▶ 5 New Sites this FY
- ▶ 93 Active Facilitators



Front Porch Project®

The **Front Porch Project®** (FPP) is a community-based primary prevention initiative based on the belief that everyone can – and should – become more aware of how to protect children and support families within their own communities. It provides community members with the knowledge, encouragement, and skill-building needed to take an active role in preventing abuse and neglect before it occurs.

In 2020, PFSA revised and revamped the FPP® curriculum to include additional concepts, such as Strengthening Families Protective Factors, and to address updated information related to parenting and culture. We also implemented a Train-the-Trainer model in 2020 with the hopes to educate and train more communities.

In late 2020, PFSA led a virtual community FPP® session for residents of the Harrisburg, PA area and virtually trained over 30 child welfare professionals in the state of Maine to deliver this program in local communities. Prevention staff also held several FPP® Overview Sessions to better engage organizations and individuals who wanted to learn more about the program.

The FPP® program is delivered at no charge to participants and can be adapted to meet the needs of your community. If you would like to learn more about the Front Porch Project, please contact us at 717-238-0937.

Child Abuse Prevention Month

Throughout the month of April, in recognition of **National Child Abuse Prevention Month**, PFSA hosted an assortment of virtual activities and events to raise awareness and educate others about child abuse prevention.

Scheduled activities included a virtual fundraiser, an interactive map representing child abuse fatality data within PA counties, and several video appearances from statewide leaders and elected officials supporting child abuse prevention efforts and strategies. These interactive activities were available to the public throughout the entire month of April.

PFSA also hosted its annual flag planting at the Harrisburg Capitol, with a limited number of volunteers due to COVID-19 restrictions. Additionally, PFSA presented a virtual, educational speaker event titled the Spotlight Speaker Series.

Each week throughout April, an expert speaker was invited to provide relevant and timely workshop presentations on topics and trends related to child abuse prevention. This speaker event was geared toward child welfare professionals and attendees were eligible for continuing education credits, but the event was also open to the public.

Finally, throughout April, PFSA virtually honored five individuals from across the commonwealth who went the extra mile to protect PA children in 2020 and 2021. These individuals were recognized for their exceptional contributions and efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect, and they were each awarded the title of Blue Ribbon Champion for Safe Kids.

This virtual recognition was a strong reminder to us that **every child needs a champion, and anyone can be a champion.**



Lauren Lazzari: Johnstown Parent Educator at Beginnings, Inc.



Jeanine Rasky: Jeanette | System Integration Director at Allegheny County's Department of Human Services (*newly retired*)



Lisa Gardner: Former Investigative Journalist at the Philadelphia Inquirer (*currently investigative editor at the San Francisco Chronicle*)



Leslie Holt: Malvern | Founder and Program Director of A Child's Light (Chester County)



Casey Stokes-Rodriguez: Harrisburg | Licensed Social Worker at Harrisburg School District

Annual PA Child Abuse Prevention Symposium

In 2020, PFSA quickly adjusted to the changing landscape caused by COVID-19 and held an entirely virtual **Child Abuse Prevention Symposium**. This virtual symposium featured acclaimed presentations and workshops on topics relevant to professionals and organizations that provide services to children and families. Multiple state and nationally recognized experts joined us for the event:

- ▶ Erin Gruwell
- ▶ Todd Snovel
- ▶ Jane Straub
- ▶ Christine Glover

Nearly 150 registered participants attended the virtual symposium and continuing education credits were made available for each session. A powerful keynote speaker session opened the event in the morning, followed by an afternoon of multiple breakout sessions. Attendees were able to choose their desired breakout sessions and dive into specific topics that were most relevant to their role.

Additionally, each attendee received a copy of the featured book titled *"The Freedom Writers Diary: How a Teacher and 150 Teens Used Writing to Change Themselves and the World Around Them."* This was made possible through a generous donation from Dauphin County Library System – **THANK YOU!**

Following the virtual event, PFSA received positive and encouraging feedback from attendees and presenters. We are grateful to our sponsors for supporting PFSA as we quickly adjusted and delivered a valuable learning opportunity for so many!

Thank you to our Symposium Sponsors!

- ▶ Weis
- ▶ PSECU
- ▶ UPMC Pinnacle
- ▶ Waterday Foundation
- ▶ Hershey Entertainment & Resorts
- ▶ Milton Hershey School
- ▶ Capital Blue
- ▶ Commonwealth Charter Academy
- ▶ Deloitte
- ▶ FMA Advisory Inc.
- ▶ Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield
- ▶ Maverick Strategies

Our Speakers



Erin Gruwell

Freedom Writers
Foundation



Jane Straub

Zero Abuse
Project



Todd Snovel

Former Executive Director
PA LGBTQ Affairs



Chris Glover

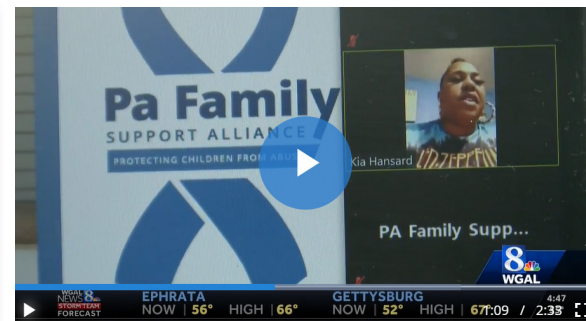
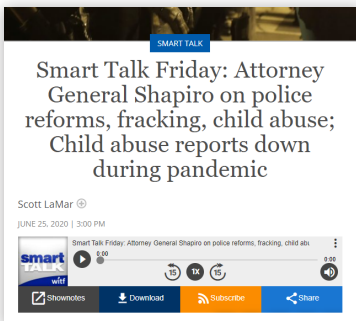
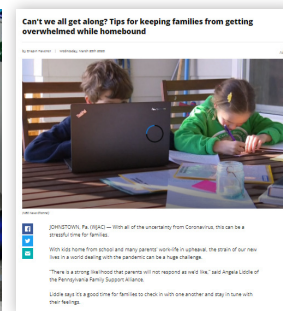
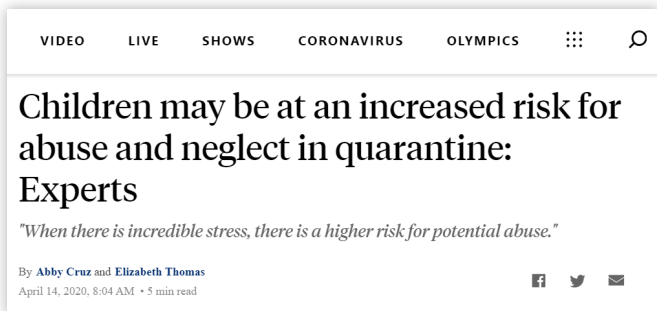
Joining Forces
for Children

- ▶ McNees Wallace and Nurick LLC
- ▶ Mid Penn Bank
- ▶ Ralph E. Jones Inc.
- ▶ The Foundation for Enhancing Communities
- ▶ Achieva Early Intervention
- ▶ Central Penn College
- ▶ Boyer & Ritter LLC
- ▶ Daley Zucker Meilton Miner Attorneys at Law
- ▶ dVinci Interactive
- ▶ Higher Information Group
- ▶ The Alliance for Infants and Toddlers
- ▶ M&T Bank
- ▶ Alder Health Services
- ▶ Association of Pennsylvania State College & University Faculties
- ▶ Beginnings, Inc.
- ▶ Ceisler Media & Issue Advocacy
- ▶ Climbnasium
- ▶ Dauphin County CASA
- ▶ Giant
- ▶ Harrisburg Regional Chamber & CREDC
- ▶ Healthy Families Allegheny
- ▶ HOMELAND at Home
- ▶ Jeremiah's Place
- ▶ Kidsburgh.org
- ▶ Kiwanis
- ▶ Liberty Tax Carlisle
- ▶ NAICIR
- ▶ Nell McCormack Abom Communications
- ▶ PA Turnpike
- ▶ Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape
- ▶ Renewal Inc.
- ▶ Schiffman Sheridan & Brown, P.C.
- ▶ SVN Latus
- ▶ The Children's Institute of Pittsburgh
- ▶ Witf

Thank you



We could not
#ProtectPAKids
 without your help!



Educating the Public About Child Abuse Prevention During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Navigating through the challenges of what a pandemic means for children and families, particularly those who are dealing with abuse, was challenging to say the least! Reporters from television stations learned how to use Zoom from their cars in parking lots and along empty streets. Never have we needed our media partners and friends more than the past year. These messengers working in print, radio, television, and social media were essential to the effort of protecting PA's children from harm!

Schools closed to keep children and teachers safe from the virus, leaving many children socially isolated — unfortunately some in homes that were not safe environments. Our organization ramped up our media efforts and worked diligently throughout 2020 and 2021 to get our message out. It was vital for parents to know it is always okay to ask for help.

Parents and caregivers were given resources for concrete daily living needs and information to help them parent in the new “normal.”

Children were not frequently seen in person by mandated reporters making it more important for community members and relatives to be alert for signs of abuse and neglect. We promoted messages encouraging everyone to “be a good neighbor” and offer assistance in a variety of ways that would ensure the safety of everyone.

School personnel learned from PFSA how best to detect signs of abuse and neglect while interacting on a virtual platform.

PFSA was featured in over 80 media stories with television, radio, online, and newspaper reporters!

Our organization proactively approached media outlets and wrote opinion pieces offering advice, but many reporters also turned to us for our expertise in the issues of child welfare. We saw the media make a concerted effort to provide the public with factual information about abuse and neglect, and **we thank the many media outlets who partnered with PFSA.**



From **Good Day PA!** to **KDKA-TV** to the **Lower Bucks Times**, we crisscrossed (virtually) Pennsylvania. We even did an interview with **ABC National News** which appeared in local affiliates throughout the country.

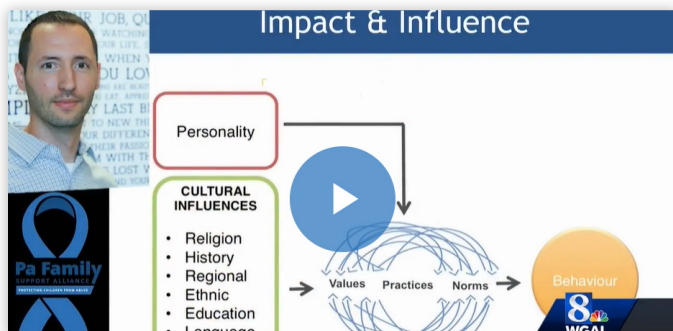
Through these media stories, we were able to get our message out to more than 3.8 million people! We were able to:

- ▶ Promote our training programs and showcase how we were working with educators and school districts to help them detect the warning signs of abuse and neglect virtually
- ▶ Help parents understand the importance of establishing routines, schedules, and social media monitoring for all children
- ▶ Provide parents with self-care suggestions during an unprecedented time of stress

- ▶ Respond to the needs of communities when traumatic incidents occurred and help educate community members on how they can speak up and take action for children
- ▶ Explain what everyday individuals and communities could do to check on the children in their lives by virtually connecting with friends, neighbors, and family members
- ▶ Urge organizations, companies, and stakeholders to inform their employees about why it was important for everyone to report suspected cases of child abuse and neglect
- ▶ Team up with the Attorney General and the Secretary of PA's Dept. of Human Services for routine press briefings with media outlets statewide

Special thanks again to PFSA's Communication and PR team comprised of:

- ▶ **Ceisler Media, Inc.**
- ▶ **The Vander Group**
- ▶ **Bitsy + Design**



Training for Mandated Reporters of Child Abuse

PFSA is the recognized leader in Pennsylvania for mandated reporter training. Mandated reporters are employees and volunteers who work with children and are mandated by law to report suspected child abuse, as defined in the Child Protective Services Law (CPSL). These individuals include (but are not limited to):

- ▶ Teachers, principals, and other school personnel
- ▶ Physicians, nurses, and other health care workers
- ▶ Social workers, counselors, therapists, and other mental health professionals
- ▶ Child care providers
- ▶ Volunteers at programs for children
- ▶ Law enforcement officers
- ▶ Clergy, priests, and other spiritual leaders

Mandated reporters play an important role in keeping our children safe, and PFSA is proud to support training and assistance to help them recognize and properly report suspected child abuse.

PFSA offers several training options to accommodate individual learning styles and the professional development needs of agencies and organizations. All of these trainings were made available virtually due to the pandemic and will continue to be offered virtually moving forward.

PFSA training promotes critical thinking about the key issues surrounding child abuse recognition and reporting through specific scenarios by experienced professionals. Most importantly, those who take our training learn how critical their role is in protecting children from abuse and neglect.

Mandated Reporter Training Credits and Certificates

All training options are approved by the PA Departments of Education, Human Services, and State and meet all requirements for mandated reporters to receive training in recognizing and reporting child abuse (including ACT 126).

Each participant receives a certificate upon completion of the training, and (upon request) confirmation of the training is submitted to the Department of State for CE fulfillment under ACT 31 or Department of Education for CE approval under ACT 48.



Trainings Offered

Live On-Site or Virtual Training: Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse

PFSA provides training live virtually or at the organization's location. Training includes group activities and discussion of scenarios, and it allows participants' questions to be answered immediately by trainers who are experts in the field of child welfare — many of whom have decades of experience in responding to reports of child abuse, investigating reports, and providing services to families. Participants receive resources and supportive information in the form of a workbook.



This training covers minimal facts interviewing skills to better determine when to make a report and provides clarification for when an alternative plan of supervision must be put into place. Internal follow-up recommendations and communication are also discussed. This training mirrors the information outlined in the OCYF Bulletin #3800-21-01, which was issued January 19, 2021, and is meant as an additional training (not a replacement for the mandated reporter training).

On-Demand Online Training

Although the best way to receive training on recognizing and reporting child abuse and neglect is through interactive, live training, PFSA offers a self-paced, online alternative for mandated reporters in both Spanish and English. The cost is \$30.

Train-the-Trainer

This is an opportunity for organizations to develop their own quality, cost-efficient, in-house training program for employees on child abuse recognition and reporting. With the three-year contract, PFSA provides two days of initial instruction for approved applicants, reports CE's directly to PA Departments of State and Education, and provides on-going technical assistance.



Based on availability, PFSA can provide this training in a three- or six-hour format in either English or Spanish at no cost to groups of 15-50 participants. PFSA can also provide this training in a two-hour format for clinicians who only need 2 CE's to renew their professional license under the Department of State.

New Training: Responding to Disclosures of Child Abuse

PFSA created a new three-hour training to help mandated reporters understand the importance of their response when a child discloses abuse. Participants learn the various types of disclosure and how best to respond to the child in ways which are sensitive, while being mindful to not taint the child's memory through suggestion, coaching, or coercion. In January 2021, this training was also given the approval to meet the training requirements for mandated reporters in recognizing and reporting child abuse.

Specialized Training: Reporting Requirements for Children Served in Residential Care Facilities

Upon the request and support of the Department of Human Services' Office of Children, Youth and Families (OCYF), PFSA created a training for providers and other child serving entities under the 3800 regulations that clarified what allegations must be reported to **ChildLine** as suspected child abuse and/or HCSIS as a reportable incident.

This program allows flexibility to accommodate staff turnover and changing agency professional development needs. PFSA staff are available to support these trainers throughout the year by answering questions and keeping the organizational trainers up-to-date on changes that impact them as mandated reporters.

PFSA's Train-the-Trainer Program is the only TTT program in Pennsylvania approved by the Departments of Education, Human Services, and State.

2020-2021 MRT Statistics

	Sessions	Participants
MRT	483	12,814
Residential	15	307
On-Demand	2,883	2,883
Organizational Trainer Program	192	2,191
Total Impact	3,573*	18,195*

**Note: Although we saw an increase in the number of live virtual trainings overall, these numbers are lower than prior years due to the pandemic which impacted delivery and training requirements for mandated reporters.*



Our Expert Child Welfare Trainers

Elizabeth Boulware Bair | Dauphin

Mark Castrantas | Bucks

Amy Chipetz | Philadelphia

Twanda Clark | Allegheny

Edward Cutts | Armstrong

Kimberly Hine | York

Haven Evans | Dauphin

Michael Gill | Allegheny

Michelle Graziano | Susquehanna

Melissa Haydt | Berks

Cindi Horshaw | Dauphin

Sherri Irvis-Hill | Philadelphia

Ellen Knecht | Lackawanna

Charlene Kolupski | Erie

Joan Mosier | Columbia

Edward Nowak | Philadelphia

Mark Nuzzo | Lawrence

Greg Phillips | Allegheny

Karen Rohaly | Allegheny

Corynne Rutz | Cumberland

Maggie Saxe | Mercer

Candace Shoenberger | Allegheny

Cindy Stevenson | Franklin

Thank you to each and every donor!

Your gift made a huge impact on children and families!

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Statement of Activities

July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

REVENUE AND OTHER SUPPORT	Dept. of Human Services Contracts	1,104,785
	Other Grants	5,250
	Contributions	173,590
	Conference Income	13,530
	Program Service Fees	186,558
	Affiliation Fees	9,750
	Interest Income	1,929
	Investment Income	97,265
	Miscellaneous	1,057
	Forgiveness of Paycheck Protection Program Loan	130,681
	TOTAL REVENUE	1,724,395
EXPENSES	Net Assets Released from Restrictions	100,948
	TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT	1,825,343
	Program Services	1,189,558
	Supporting Services	
	Management & General	208,951
WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS	Fundraising	15,669
	TOTAL EXPENSES	1,414,178
	Grants	3,500
	Net Assets Released from Restrictions	(100,948)
	TOTAL REVENUE WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS	(97,448)
	INCREASE IN NET ASSETS	313,717

PFSA STAFF



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President and CEO



Crista DeGregorio
Operations Support Coordinator



Justin Donofrio, MSSW
Program Services Manager



Haven Evans
Director of Programs



David Merrill, BSA, MST
Director of Finance



Rosa Ponti
Training Coordinator



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Cumberland County

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Families In Recovery

Strengthening Connections One Day at a Time

PA Family Support Alliance developed the *Families in Recovery* program to provide support and education to families, parents, and children who have been touched by addiction and are living in recovery.

This comprehensive experiential and educational program attends to a variety of challenges and experiences common to parents in recovery, including: identifying strengths, needs, and resiliencies; exploring healthy parenting in balance with recovery needs, understanding the person-focused and family-centered change process; promoting healthy parenting and communication styles; developing healthy coping skills and modeling self-care; coping with guilt, shame, and stigma; and developing a personalized family blueprint for overall wellness.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Theoretically integrative framework with a holistic strengths and needs based approach
 - ▶ Promotes self-efficacy, resilience, and empowerment
 - ▶ Inclusive, culturally sensitive, and supports a variety of approaches to recovery-wellness
 - ▶ Support and education for parents on how to manage emotions and develop sustaining and healthy relationships
 - ▶ Trauma informed, family and person-centered, easy to individualize
 - ▶ Promotes holistic wellness of parents, caregivers, and children
 - ▶ Encourages and identifies the importance of developing social connections, and increasing knowledge of parenting and child development
- ▶ Appropriate for use in group and individual settings including:
 - > Inpatient and outpatient treatment
 - > Parenting collaboratives and groups
 - > Family support programs
 - ▶ Over 50 pages of valuable content and work-space to be used experientially within a group or on an individual basis
 - ▶ Participant workbooks are accompanied by instructor manual to support and guide facilitators from various disciplines and educational backgrounds
 - ▶ Instructor manual features supplemental resources: icebreakers, activity suggestions, and handouts
 - ▶ Designed to be delivered in 7 sessions at 2 hours per session with flexible structuring to be adapted to meet your program needs
 - ▶ Informed by and inclusive of The Strengthening Families Protective Factors™



TO GET STARTED, CONTACT

Justin Donofrio, MSSW • Program Services Manager
717.238.0937 • jdonofrio@pa-fsa.org


Join us to **#ProtectPAKids**

Learn more at pafsa.org





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