



Child Protection Policy

Kids across Pennsylvania this summer are heading off to camps and programs. Parents and caregivers trust these programs to keep their children safe. One important way organizations can meet that responsibility is by having a strong child protection policy in place.

A child protection policy outlines your organization's commitment to keeping children safe from abuse and neglect. It also gives your staff clear guidance on what to do if they suspect something is wrong. A good policy can reduce confusion, build trust, and most importantly, help protect the children in your care.

SO, HOW DO I WRITE ONE?

Read [our blog](#) to learn how to write a robust child protection policy for your organization.



We've Moved!

Our office has moved to a new location! Please update your records to reflect our new address to ensure there are no disruptions in communication or correspondence.

All other contact details, including phone numbers and email addresses, will remain the same.

**100 Sterling Parkway, Suite 100
Mechanicsburg, PA 17050**

MANDATED REPORTER TRAINER SPOTLIGHT

Cindi Horshaw



We recently interviewed Cindi, who has been a contracted trainer for PFSA since 2017. Here is what she has to say about why she is so passionate about training mandated reporters.

Why do you care about mandated reporters of child abuse?

Mandated reporters play a critical role in helping to protect the most vulnerable citizens of Pennsylvania - children. Many of our mandated reporters spend more time with children than anyone and they have the ability to identify potential victims of abuse and neglect early so that we can take steps to ensure the safety of children. I have always been passionate about child welfare work and being able to train mandated reporters is one small way I can give back and arm mandated reporters with the knowledge and skills they need to play their part! Together we can all make a difference in the lives of children!

Why do you train for PFSA?

I train for PFSA because my entire career has been in child welfare, and I am passionate about the work the child welfare system does and the responsibility they have to protect children. I feel it is incredibly important to make sure that

mandated reporters understand their roles and responsibilities to protect children, beginning with being able to identify potential abuse and neglect all the way through the delivery of services to help those affected overcome the trauma they have experienced.

Understanding the law and being able to recognize and report suspected child abuse requires individuals to be well informed and educated, otherwise we leave children in unsafe situations. The training PFSA provides eliminates the excuse of "I didn't know what I was supposed to do" or "I didn't know how to report" and ensures every mandated reporter has the opportunity to become educated on their reporting obligation in order to play their small part in protecting children.

We appreciate the wealth of knowledge Cindi brings to each training she provides to mandated reporters. She looks forward to meeting you in her trainings!

*Follow us
on social!*



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@ProtectPAKids



PA Family Support Alliance
@pa-family-support-alliance



PFSA
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PA Family Support Alliance
@PAFamilySupport

PA Child Abuse PREVENTION SYMPOSIUM

Registration is OPEN!



CREDITS ACT 48 | CEUs | CLEs

NOV 6th 2025



VIRTUAL

OUR SPEAKERS



Ollie Kuo

Association of Maternal
& Child Health
Programs (AMCHP)



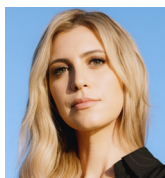
Jess Simon

Association of Maternal
& Child Health
Programs (AMCHP)



Rijelle Kraft

Center for Schools
and Communities



Laila Mickelwait
Justice Defense Fund



Emma Swift Lee
Fred Rogers Institute

The **PA Child Abuse Prevention Symposium** delivers content and resources that meet the current needs of families while also shining a light on new and emerging trends. Participants will have an opportunity to learn, engage, and network with expert speakers presenting innovative topics that intersect with family support and child abuse prevention practices.

This unique event will be held virtually via Zoom, and all participants will have an opportunity to attend each session during the event.

SESSION TOPICS

- ▶ Exposing the Crime Scene: Big Porn's Exploitation of Children and Victims
- ▶ Building on Strengths: Using the Strengthening Families Protective Factors Framework to Guide our Work
- ▶ Enhancing Cross Sector Collaboration and Policy Capacity to Address Perinatal Substance Use Disorder
- ▶ The Value of Grandfamilies: Beyond What We Know

To learn more about the event sessions and speakers, visit our PA Child Abuse Prevention Symposium [webpage here](#).

CLICK TO REGISTER

UPCOMING PFSA TRAININGS

Family Digital Wellness - Online Cohort Training Program

Apply today for the Family Digital Wellness-Online Cohort (FDW-OC). The training is a unique opportunity for professionals in child and family-serving fields who have an interest in learning about how digital technology impacts communities and discussing how digital wellness can positively impact the lives of children and families that we serve. The FDW-OC provides a way for professionals to come together and expand their capacity for helping families create safe and healthy interactions with digital technology.

This program will follow a cohort structure, with all sessions taking place virtually via Zoom between August 2025 and January 2026:

- ▶ One Monthly Group Content Session
- ▶ Individual Assignments
- ▶ Group Discussions

Cost: \$300 per participant (12 CEUs included with full completion of the program)

Program Details: Download the **FDW-OC Information Guide** for all meeting dates and program details

Application Deadline: August 15, 2025 (apply [HERE](#))

For questions and inquiries, email PFSA's Director of Prevention Programs, Justin Donofrio, at jdonofrio@pafsa.org.

Families in Recovery (FiR) New Facilitator Training

This research-based program is a great resource for parents, guardians, and caretakers recovering from substance use disorder. The program aims to teach healthy coping and parenting skills while balancing the needs of recovery.

New FiR facilitators will be fully prepared to implement the program and provide training after attending a two-day session that covers content, education, and implementation of the curriculum. FiR facilitators come together during training to share program implementation experience, ideas, and insights.

All organizations interested in implementing FiR are required to enter into a contract with PFSA and participate in the evaluation requirements of the program. Contracts include ongoing technical assistance, program development, facilitator calls, and assistance with data collection.

Cost: Contact PFSA's Prevention Services Manager, Justin Donofrio (jdonofrio@pafsa.org), for paperwork or to ask questions.

Dates: October 20 & 21, 2025 (virtual)

Time: 9:00 a.m.—3:30 p.m.
(half-hour lunch break)

UPCOMING PFSA TRAININGS

Mandated Reporter Training

PFSA has several options for mandated reporter training for staff and volunteers. We provide certificates to participants and, upon request, will upload confirmation of the training to the Departments of State or Education for CE fulfillments under Act 31 and/or Act 48. CLEs are also available for attorneys.

LIVE IN-PERSON/VIRTUAL

Cost: Free

Register [here](#) for a virtual session.

INDIVIDUAL ONLINE, ON-DEMAND

Cost: \$30

Sign up [here](#) to take any time.

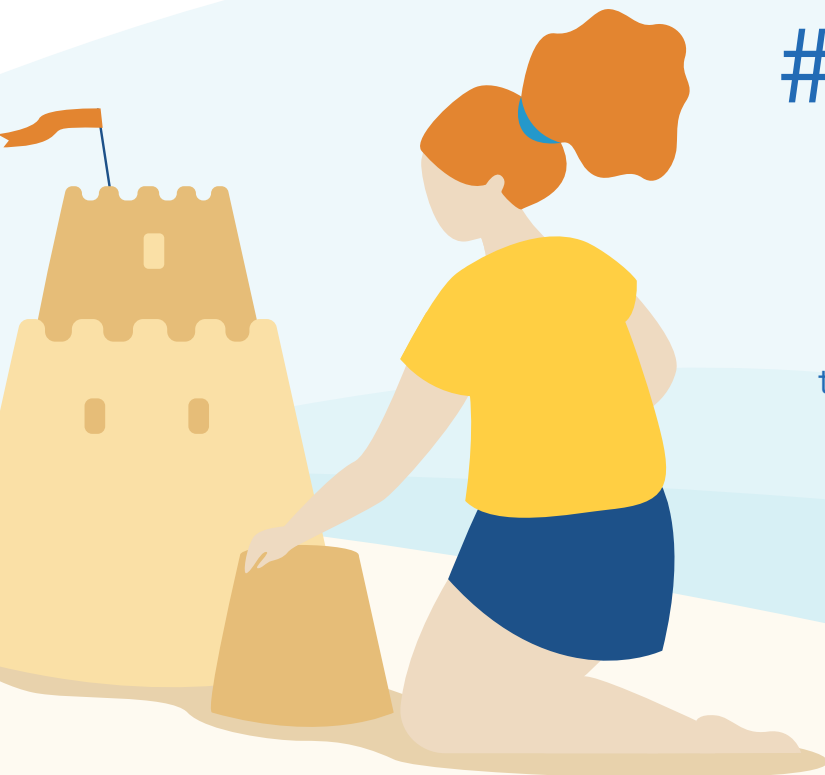
TRAIN-THE-TRAINER

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.

Dates: October 16 & 17, 2025 (*virtual*)

Time: 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.
(*half-hour lunch break*)

Cost: \$1,000 per trainer entering into a three-year contract with PFSA. Email training@pafsa.org to obtain paperwork or to ask questions.



#ProtectPAKids

Help us support families and communities across Pennsylvania by donating to PFSA today. Your gift will help PFSA continue to deliver successful training, education, and ongoing support to Pennsylvania families and children.

Visit pafsa.org/donate to learn more and donate!



CBCAP Network Member: Fayette County Children & Youth Services

PFSA welcomes **Fayette County Children & Youth Services** as a new member of the Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) Network. PFSA is proud to partner and collaborate with diverse, dedicated, and committed organizations that advance the important work of preventing child abuse and neglect. Thank you for your commitment and dedication!

To find out more about **CBCAP Network** benefits or to learn about becoming a CBCAP Network member, visit **our website**.



Visit Our Store

PFSA has educational resources available in our online store. You can find informative materials covering a wide range of topics designed to assist caregivers, parents, and professionals in an effort to protect children. Please visit pafsa.org/store to learn more!

Read Our Blog

Our blog is the best way to get timely information on ways to help stop child abuse, recent staff developments, and prevention strategies. Read more at pafsa.org/blog.