



## How to Talk to Children About Racism and Injustices

Children notice and can understand at an early age when people suffer injustices, and yet parents often don't talk about this important topic with their children. **Discussing racism and slavery can be especially difficult, but we NEED to talk about them.** Learning about their history can help young Black children develop a positive racial identity, provided the education is done in

an uplifting, empowering, and inclusive manner. For young white children, learning about historical racism and slavery interrupts any false sense of racial superiority.

If we choose not to talk about racism, our silence is still talking about it — but in a way that our kids learn to ignore or dismiss the importance of it and potentially create incorrect thoughts and biases about racism.

### CONVERSATION IS KEY!

Try to make the conversation with your children natural and comfortable, so your kids feel free to ask questions. If you are not sure about an answer, look it up and get back to them with the answer. You do not know what questions they have until they ask them. Although some

questions (such as “will we ever be slaves again?” or “were my relatives slave owners?”) may be difficult to hear, kids need the space and time to ask as they learn and process all the information. Be sure to check in on how they feel about these big concepts too.

## CONVERSATIONS HELP ALL OF US!

Discussing race and diversity helps children develop a healthy appreciation of differences between people. By raising the next generation to appreciate and build on these differences, we can become stronger together.

To learn more on this topic, check out our [blog here](#).




## Welcome Back and Welcome to New CBCAP Network Members!


PFSA would like to take the opportunity to welcome back all new and current **Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) Network** members! We are proud to partner and collaborate with such a dedicated and committed group of organizations that advance the important work of preventing child abuse and neglect. Thank you for your commitment and dedication!

To find additional CBCAP Network events or learn more about becoming a CBCAP Network member, visit our website at [pafsa.org](https://pafsa.org).

## Follow along with us!

 **PA Family Support Alliance**  
@ProtectPAKids

 **PFSA**  
@pafamilysupportalliance

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

 **PA Family Support Alliance**  
@PAFamilySupport







**NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH | APRIL 2024**

# Join Us in Raising Awareness Across the Commonwealth This April!

Throughout April, PFSA will host events and activities to raise awareness about child abuse prevention as part of **National Child Abuse Prevention Month**. Our events and activities will not only elevate the ongoing work undertaken by our organization and child advocates but also educate participants, so they feel empowered to protect Pennsylvania's children.

From hosting in-person events to engaging virtually, we invite you to work with us and help **#ProtectPAKids!**

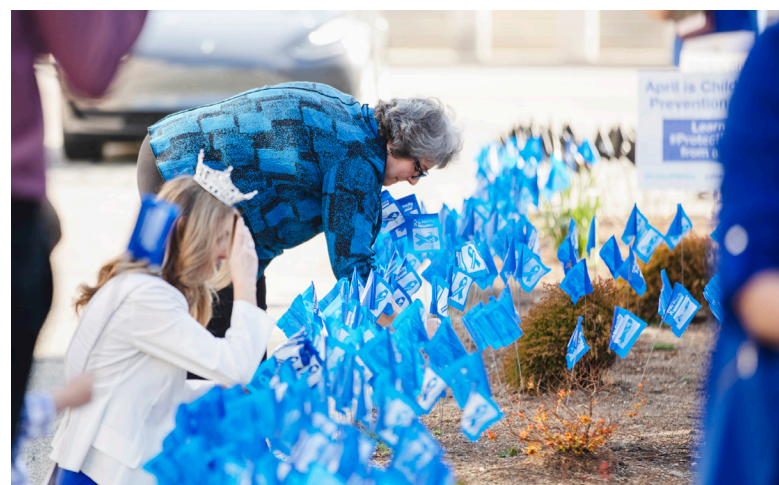
## TURN PENNSYLVANIA BLUE 4.2.24

Blue is the national symbolic color of child abuse prevention. On April 2, PFSA encourages everyone to wear blue and

use their voices and platforms to help raise awareness about child abuse prevention to "Turn Pennsylvania Blue."

## FLAG PLANTING ON THE GROUNDS OF THE CAPITOL 4.2.24

On April 2, PFSA will once again sponsor this in-person event in Harrisburg, PA. From Front Street to the steps of the Capitol, PFSA staff members, board of directors, statewide and local advocates, officials, and corporate supporters will plant 4,992 blue flags to represent the number of substantiated child abuse cases and 60 black flags to represent the number of child deaths due to child abuse in Pennsylvania over one year.





## PA BLUE RIBBON CHAMPIONS FOR SAFE KIDS AWARD CEREMONY 4.2.24

*in the Main Rotunda of the Capitol Complex  
in Harrisburg, PA*

The PA Blue Ribbon Champions for Safe Kids ceremony will be held April 2 in the Main Rotunda of the Pennsylvania State Capitol Complex. During the ceremony, PFSA will honor four individuals from across the commonwealth who have gone the extra mile to **#ProtectPAKids**.

These individuals are recognized as our **Blue Ribbon Champions for Safe Kids** due to their exceptional contributions to prevent child abuse and neglect throughout Pennsylvania. These individuals were nominated by their peers, colleagues, and supervisors because they went above and beyond the call of duty to protect Pennsylvania's children.

Along with welcoming award winners, legislative leadership, and elected and appointed officials, we are excited for the Susquehanna Children's Chorale to join this year's in-person event!

## BLUE RIBBON CAMPAIGN ALL APRIL

The symbol for child abuse prevention is the blue ribbon. Wearing a blue ribbon is a visual way for individuals to demonstrate they are taking a stand against child abuse and encouraging others to do the same. Please check out our website to order blue ribbons for you and your community.

## SPOTLIGHT SPEAKER 4.4.24

Each year, PFSA welcomes special speakers and experts to provide timely presentations on child abuse prevention and how to best engage communities on this important topic.

This year, PFSA welcomes **Emma Lee**, Associate Director of the **Fred Rogers Institute**, as our Spotlight Speaker. Ms. Lee will provide a powerful presentation that focuses on how children and families have become regularly exposed to online violence and negativity through social media, and how we can ALL be more kind and more compassionate with one another.

Join us on April 4 for this live virtual presentation. Additional details and registration information for the virtual event will be made available soon.

**Stay tuned for more details  
and information about events  
throughout April!**

# Join us April 2, 2024 in Harrisburg, PA!

## Flag Planting

9:00am

3rd & State Street  
Harrisburg



## Award Ceremony

10:30am

Pennsylvania's Capitol  
Building Main Rotunda



# UPCOMING PFSA TRAININGS

---

## Families in Recovery 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 facilitators of the Families in Recovery (FiR) program will be fully prepared to implement the program and provide training after attending a two-day comprehensive session consisting of content, education, and application instruction of the curriculum. FiR facilitators come together to share program implementation experience, ideas, and insights following initial training.

All organizations interested in implementing the Families in Recovery program are required to enter an agreement contract with PFSA and participate in the evaluation requirements of the program. FiR contracts include ongoing technical assistance, program development, facilitator calls, and assistance with data collection procedures.

**Dates:** April 23 & 24, 2024 (*virtual*)  
July 16 & 17, 2024 (*virtual*)

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

**Cost:** Email Justin Donofrio, Prevention Services Manager, at [jdonofrio@pafsa.org](mailto:jdonofrio@pafsa.org) for the paperwork or to ask any questions.

## Mandated Reporter Training

PFSA has several options for mandated reporter training for staff and volunteers. Certificates are provided to the participants, and, upon request, we will upload confirmation of your 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

**How to register:** Find and register for a virtual session here: [pafsa.org/mandated-reporter-training](https://pafsa.org/mandated-reporter-training)

### INDIVIDUAL ONLINE, ON-DEMAND

**Cost:** \$30

**Take anytime:** [pafsa.org/on-demand-online-training](https://pafsa.org/on-demand-online-training)

### 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:** April 16 & 17, 2024 (*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 Haven Evans, Director of Programs, at [hevans@pafsa.org](mailto:hevans@pafsa.org) for the paperwork or to ask any questions.

# PA Child Abuse **PREVENTION SYMPOSIUM**



**NOV 7<sup>th</sup>**

**CREDITS**  
ACT 48 | CEUs | CLEs

## SAVE THE DATE!

Mark your calendar and plan to join us virtually on November 7, 2024, for PFSA's annual PA Child Abuse Prevention Symposium!

## #ProtectPAKids

Help us support the 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 PA families and children.

Visit [pafsa.org](https://pafsa.org) to learn more and to donate!



## Visit Our Blog!

Stay up-to-date on ways to help stop child abuse, learn more about our staff, and gain knowledge on prevention by reading our blog.

[pafsa.org/blog](https://pafsa.org/blog)



## 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](https://pafsa.org/store) to learn more!