

#ProtectPAKids NEWSLETTER JUL 2024 · LEARN MORE AT PAFSA.ORG

Child Abuse Reporting as a Prevention Tool

The impact of child maltreatment can be long-term and devastating. Children who live through years of assault, degradation, and neglect bear scars that can last for years. In addition, the direct and indirect costs of child abuse are staggering. It is a costly problem for society, both financially and in the negative impact it makes on people's lives.

Prolonged, severe, or unpredictable stress during a child's early years, including abuse and neglect, can result in negative impacts on the abused child's physical, cognitive, emotional, and social growth. The results can range from criminal activity and damaging adult relationships to problems in school and self-destructive behaviors.

WHAT CAN YOU DO ABOUT THIS?

Child abusers rarely stop on their own — it usually requires intervention to stop the abuse or neglect to that child. It takes caring adults in that child's life to recognize the warning signs and make that report of suspected child abuse so that intervention can happen. By interrupting the abuse, you can help to prevent future harm to that child.

YOU CAN HELP CHANGE THE STORY FOR THESE CHILDREN!

- Learn about child abuse and neglect
- Be alert to warning signs and be prepared to report
- Support moms, dads, and those doing the hardest job of all jobs – parenting!
- Childhood should be happy, and its positive effects should last a lifetime!

Visit our website to register for one of our three training curriculums on how to recognize, report, and respond to child abuse and neglect.

Welcome to the new agencies in our CBCAP Network!



PFSA would like to take an opportunity to welcome two new members of the **Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) Network: River Valley School District** (Indiana and Westmoreland Counties) and **Smilebuilderz** (Lancaster County)! These two agencies are also connected to PFSA through the **Mandated Reporter Train-the-Trainer Program** – WELCOME!

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 about **CBCAP Network** benefits or to learn more about becoming a CBCAP Network member, visit our website at **pafsa.org**.

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Follow along with us on social media!



Virtual

PA Child Abuse PREVENTION SYMPOSIUM

REGISTER ONLINE AT PAFSA.ORG

Registration is OPEN for the 2024 PA Child Abuse Prevention Symposium!

This unique event 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 on innovative topics that intersect with family support and child abuse prevention practices.

The PA Child Abuse Prevention Symposium will be held virtually via Zoom, and all participants will have an opportunity to attend each session during the event.

SESSION TOPICS

- Creating Concrete Supports for Families and the Confusion Between Poverty and Neglect
- Huntingdon Endangered/At-Risk Youth Response Team (H.E.A.R.T.) Program
- Prevention Made Possible: Collaborative Strategies for Child Abuse Prevention
- Race, Social Class, and Child Abuse: Content, Strength, and Impact of Stereotypes on Medical Decision-Making
- Shifting from Digital Diligence to Digital Wellness

To learn more about the event sessions and speakers, visit our PA Child Abuse Prevention Symposium webpage **here**.

Pennsylvania Family Support Alliance | 800-448-4906 | pafsa.org

REGISTRATION & PRICING NEW THIS YEAR: TWO registration options!

Participants have the option to attend the live session (eligible for continuing education credits) or purchase the recording-only (not eligible for continuing education credits). For either option, the recording will be made available the week after the event concludes, and access will be granted for one month.

Live (virtual) attendance and recording access: \$125

Access to recording-only: \$50

CBCAP Network member discount: 10% discount when using code, which can be applied to either registration option.

Continuing Education Credits: All live attendance registrations are eligible for CEUs, CLEs, or Act 48 credits.

Please direct any questions to info@pafsa.org



#ProtectPA**Kids!**

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 to learn more and donate!

Family Digital Wellness



PFSA is excited to offer opportunities for your agency or community to host a Family Digital Wellness workshop! The workshop(s) can be delivered virtually or in person, with multiple topics and options available. PFSA will provide necessary content, facilitation, and resources for all workshops, and hosting agencies will be responsible for participant recruitment. Participant groups may include internal staff, professional partners, community members, or a combination of groups.

Workshop topics may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Overview of Family Digital Wellness
- The Digital Diligence Framework
- The Seven Levels of Digital Diligence
- ► Foundations of Family Digital Wellness
- Common and Emerging Digital Dangers
- The Role and Impact of Artificial Intelligence

Workshop opportunities are first-come, first-serve and dates are made available upon request. To learn more or to request a workshop, contact PFSA Prevention Services Manager Justin Donofrio at **jdonofrio@pafsa.org**.

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, our latest staff developments, and prevention strategies. Our July blog entry includes important water safety tips for this hot month. Read more at **pafsa.org/blog**.



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: October 22 & 23, 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** 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

INDIVIDUAL ONLINE, ON-DEMAND Cost: \$30

Take anytime: pafsa.org/on-demand-onlinetraining

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: July 25 & 26, 2024 (virtual) October 22 & 23, 2024 (virtual)

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

Cost: \$1,000 per trainer, entering into a threeyear contract with PFSA. Email Haven Evans, Director of Programs, at **hevans@pafsa.org** for the paperwork or to ask any questions.