



# — APRIL IS — **Child Abuse Prevention Month** —

Throughout April, Pennsylvania Family Support Alliance (PFSA) will recognize Child Abuse Prevention Month by hosting several events and activities to call attention to the prevalence of child abuse and how private organizations, public entities, and individuals can work together to prevent and stop it.

**Children are our most precious resource, and they deserve to be loved and protected and grow up in an environment that is free from abuse and neglect.**

That is why we have designed all our events and activities to not only elevate the ongoing work that our organization and child advocates are undertaking but also educate attendees and participants so that they leave feeling empowered to protect Pennsylvania's children.

From hosting in-person events to engaging with various communities across the commonwealth to sponsoring virtual speakers, we invite you to work with us and help #ProtectPAKids!



# *Join us in April!*

## **Annual Flag Planting**

On April 4, PFSA will once again sponsor this in-person event. From Front Street to the steps of the Capitol, PFSA staff, board of directors, statewide and local advocates, officials, and corporate supporters will plant blue and black flags to represent child abuse cases in Pennsylvania over a one-year period.

## **Blue Ribbon Champions for Safe Kids**

PFSA will honor Blue Ribbon Champions from across the commonwealth who have gone the extra mile to protect PA children. These individuals are recognized for their exceptional contributions as we continue to make every effort to prevent child abuse and neglect throughout Pennsylvania.

## **Turn Pennsylvania Blue**

Blue is the national symbolic color of child abuse prevention. PFSA will call on Pennsylvania-based reporters, on-air media personalities, celebrities, influencers, and elected officials to “Turn Pennsylvania Blue” on April 4.

## **Children’s Memorial**

PFSA will display child abuse and neglect data from Pennsylvania’s statewide report on an interactive map accompanied by a memorial video honoring the children who were lost due to child abuse and neglect.

## **Engaging in Various Communities Across the Commonwealth**

PFSA will work directly with individuals and child welfare organizations, like county children and youth service agencies, across the state on local activities that will publicly raise awareness about abuse prevention.

## **Spotlight Speaker: Virtual Speaker Event**

PFSA will host a nationally renowned child abuse prevention expert to speak to attendees in a live, virtual setting. This expert will provide relevant, innovative, and timely information about child neglect. The topic addressed will support the career development of individuals who work in this field.



## CBCAP MEMBER HIGHLIGHT

# Dauphin County CASA

PFSa is excited to have **Dauphin County Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)** as a member of the **Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) Network!**

Dauphin County CASA is part of a national initiative to empower citizen volunteers to speak up for children who have experienced abuse and neglect by advocating for their best interests both in and out of the courtroom.

Through a review of records as well as community involvement, volunteers prepare insightful reports to assist the judges and hearing examiners presiding over dependency matters in the Dauphin County Court of Common Pleas.

The mission of Dauphin County CASA is to recruit, train, educate, and supervise dedicated volunteers to become agents of change for every abused and neglected child from Dauphin County.

Through investigating, listening, and involvement in the courtroom as well as the child's community, a CASA will assist our children to achieve their full potential.

**PFSa would like to extend CASA a warm welcome to the CBCAP Network!**

Learn more about the organization at [www.dauphincountycasa.org](http://www.dauphincountycasa.org).



## 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](http://pafsa.org/blog)



# SAVE *the* DATE

## PA Child Abuse PREVENTION SYMPOSIUM

### 9.13.23



Mark your calendar and plan to join us for PFSA's Annual PA Child Abuse Prevention Symposium!

September 13, 2023

This all-day **virtual event** will feature acclaimed speakers and presentations on current topics and emerging trends relevant to a variety of professionals and organizations that provide services to children and families. Additional event details and information will be formally announced soon. In the meantime, keep an eye and ear out to learn more about the 2023 PA Child Abuse Prevention Symposium and early registration opportunities!

*Follow  
along!*



PA Family Support Alliance  
@ProtectPAKids



PFSA  
@pafamilysupportalliance



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



PA Family Support Alliance  
@PAFamilySupport

# UPCOMING PFSA TRAININGS

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## 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 18 & 19, 2023 (virtual) **OR**  
July 18 & 19, 2023 (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 20 & 21, 2023 (virtual) **OR**  
July 13 & 14, 2023 (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.

An illustration of a woman with long dark blue hair, wearing an orange long-sleeved shirt and blue pants, standing on the left with her hand on her hip and her other hand reaching out to touch the shoulder of a young girl. The girl has light blue hair in a ponytail, wears a dark blue t-shirt and a light blue skirt, and is holding the hand of a young girl with dark skin and short dark blue hair. This girl is wearing a yellow dress and brown leggings. To the right, a boy with short dark blue hair, wearing an orange t-shirt and a dark blue skirt, is waving his right hand. The background is a light blue gradient with a white curved shape behind the text.

# *Thank you!*

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 PA families and children.

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