

#ProtectPAKids NEWSLETTER MAY 2022 · LEARN MORE AT PAFSA.ORG

National Child Abuse Prevention Month PFSA Recap



Many communities and agencies across Pennsylvania participated in Child Abuse Prevention Month to raise awareness and provide educational opportunities to help prevent abuse. At PFSA, we held several activities throughout April, and we are humbled by the participation of everyone who engaged with us throughout this important month.

Flag Planting Event

Several staff, board members, stakeholders, and elected officials participated in PFSA's annual flag planting event at the Harrisburg Capitol on April 1. Blue flags were planted to represent the total number of substantiated cases of abuse based on the latest data, and black flags represented the number of child fatalities from abuse.

- 4,593 blue flags planted
- 73 black flags planted

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

Blue Ribbon Champions for Safe Kids

PFSA honored individuals from across the Commonwealth who went above and beyond the call to **#ProtectPAKids** from abuse and neglect. These individuals are recognized as Blue Ribbon Champions for Safe Kids for their exceptional contributions and efforts. PFSA was proud to honor the following Blue Ribbon Champions in 2022.

- Daniel Goldstein | South Whitehall Township
- Robin Boyer | Ephrata Borough
- Jennifer Wildermann | Scranton
- Deborah Willett | West Caln Township

Spotlight Speaker Series

PFSA's second annual **Spotlight Speaker Series** hosted expert speakers across the nation on innovative and emerging topics related to child abuse prevention. This speaker series was held virtually throughout April with a total of 495 registrations.

- Session 1: Preventing Child Maltreatment Using an Ecological and Strengths-Based Lens (Dr. Kristen Slack, University of Wisconsin-Madison)
- Session 2: Problematic Interactive Media Use (PIMU): Gaming, Social Media & More (Lauren Mendoza, Digital Wellness Lab)
- Session 3: Youth Thrive: Innovative Ways to Partner with Young People (Kaysie Getty & Elliot Hinkle, Center for the Study of Social Policy)
- Session 4: Social Media Safety: Emerging Risks & Community-Based Responses (Marc Berkman, Organization for Social Media Safety)





Dr. Kristen Slack

Lauren Mendoza

Kaysie Getty

Elliott Hinkle

Marc Berkman



Painting for Prevention

For the first time ever, PFSA held a virtual **Painting for Prevention** project made available statewide. In collaboration with our CBCAP Network agencies, canvases and paint kits were distributed and shared on social media using the **#ProtectPAKids** hashtag throughout April!

- > 250 canvases and paint kits made available
- 40+ recipient organizations

Digital Initiatives

PFSA also hosted an interactive data map on our website to help others better understand the most recent child abuse data at the statewide and county level. Additionally, PFSA's digital blue ribbon fundraiser was available all month, which provided individuals with the opportunity to donate a digital blue ribbon in honor of those impacted by child abuse.

Our Heartfelt Thanks

We are grateful for everyone who engaged with us during **Child Abuse Prevention Month** and for the commitment made to keep kids safe. We know that this work carries on beyond April, but we find it especially important to thank each person for their engagement and participation throughout such a very important month.



Painting for Prevention

with our PA CBCAP Network Members



Thank you CBCAP Network!



Thank you for helping to #ProtectPAKids!

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

CBCAP MEMBER HIGHLIGHT Mission Kids Child Advocacy Center

PFSA would like to welcome Mission Kids Child Advocacy Center as one of the newest members of the Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) Network!

Mission Kids CAC offers a comprehensive, centrally located, multidisciplinary team response to allegations of child abuse in a dedicated, child-friendly setting to achieve justice for child victims and promote their physical and emotional well-being.

Mission Kids CAC provides neutral, fact-finding forensic interviews coordinated to avoid duplicative interviewing and support Montgomery County's multidisciplinary team approach to child abuse investigation and intervention.

The ultimate goal of Mission Kids CAC is to provide a broad range of support services to child victims and their caregivers in an environment that encourages healing and facilitates better prosecution of alleged offenders.

Welcome to the CBCAP Network! Learn more about Mission Kids Child Advocacy Center at **missionkidscac.org**.



Child Advocacy Center









Did You Know?

We have 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 protecting children. Please visit **pafsa.org** to learn more!



UPCOMING PFSA TRAININGS

Families in Recovery New Facilitator Training

PFSA is excited to announce that our Families in Recovery (FiR) program has additional dates scheduled for 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 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 site contracts include ongoing technical assistance, program development, facilitator calls, and assistance with data collection procedures. FiR facilitators come together with each other 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.

Cost: Program costs have recently changed. Please contact Justin Donofrio, Program Services Manager, at **jdonofrio@pafsa.org** for details regarding contracts and costs.

Date: July 13 & 14, 2022 (virtual)

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

Register: You must pre-register for this training. Email Justin Donofrio, Program Services Manager, at **jdonofrio@pafsa.org** for contract paperwork, registration information, and program details.

Mandated Reporter Training

PFSA has several options for you and your staff to receive training on how to recognize and report suspected child abuse. This training is for those mandated by law to report suspected child abuse, as defined in the Child Protective Services Law. Curriculum is approved by the Departments of Human Services, Education, and State and meets all requirements for mandated reporters to receive training in recognizing and reporting child abuse (including Act 126).

Certificates are provided to the participants, and upon request, we will upload confirmation of your training to the Department of State or Education for CE fulfillments under Act 31 and/or Act 48.

This curriculum has also been approved for CLEs for attorneys.

LIVE IN-PERSON/VIRTUAL Cost: Free How to register: Find and register for a virtual session here: pafsa.org/mandatedreporter-training

INDIVIDUAL ONLINE, ON-DEMAND Cost: \$30 Take anytime: pafsa.org/on-demandonline-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. With the three-year contract, PFSA provides two days of initial instruction for approved applicants, reports CEs directly to PA Departments of State and Education, and offers ongoing technical assistance.

Cost: \$1,000 per trainer entering into a three-year contract with PFSA (payment can be broken down by year: \$400/year one, \$300/year two, \$300/year three)

Date: July 19 & 20, 2022 (virtual)

Time: 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. (half-hour lunch break)

How to register: You must pre-register for this training. Email Haven Evans, Director of Programs, at **hevans@pafsa.org** for the paperwork or to ask any questions.

We Are Thankful for Your Support!

Help us to 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!

