

#ProtectPAKids NEWSLETTER

APR 2022 · LEARN MORE AT PAFSA.ORG

National Child Abuse Prevention Month



PFSA'S Role in Prevention

Each year, many states, businesses, communities, and agencies recognize April as National Child Abuse Prevention Month by participating in events and activities to raise awareness and provide education for prevention. Each entity approaches Child Abuse Prevention Month differently, all with a common goal: prevent child abuse and neglect.

PFSA treats Child Abuse Prevention Month as an opportunity to honor those who have been impacted by abuse, engage local community members around prevention, and focus on the future of our children and families. PFSA will host a wide range of events and activities throughout April that allow us to do that.

HONORING THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN IMPACTED

Flag Planting. Each April, PFSA hosts our annual flag-planting event. This brings together PFSA staff, board members, and stakeholders to plant flags at the Harrisburg State Capitol in honor of victims of child abuse across Pennsylvania. The powerful event reminds us of the work we do and the work that lies ahead of all of us to protect children from abuse.

Child Abuse Data Map. In addition to our flagplanting event, PFSA also displays an interactive data map on our website that outlines child abuse and fatality data from the prior year. The map allows the public to view the data by county and observe where child abuse occurred across the commonwealth the prior year. A memorial video accompanies the interactive data map to honor those children we lost to











abuse. This serves as a sobering reminder of the impact child abuse has on an individual, a family, a community, and our commonwealth.

ENGAGING LOCAL COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Blue Ribbon Champions for Safe Kids.
Each April, PFSA takes the time to recognize individuals from across the commonwealth who have gone above and beyond the call to

who have gone above and beyond the call to **#ProtectPAKids** from abuse and neglect.

These individuals are recognized as PFSA's Blue Ribbon Champions for Safe Kids for their exceptional contributions to prevent child abuse and neglect in their communities each day. While we acknowledge that there is more work to do, it is imperative we pause to observe the progress being made within communities.

We are thankful for each Blue Ribbon Champion — you make all the difference in the lives of others. Spotlight Speaker Series. PFSA also provides the space for community professionals to become engaged with the current challenges we face in preventing child abuse and neglect by hosting the Spotlight Speaker Series webinar event. The Spotlight Speaker Series is a live, educational event that hosts four different experts throughout April who deliver interactive webinar presentations that shine the spotlight on a specific topic related to child abuse prevention. These webinars are relevant and innovative, which helps to better prepare professionals for the challenges they face in their communities and with families.

Painting for Prevention. One of PFSA's longstanding initiatives is our Painting for Prevention community mural program. This brings people together for creative engagement, and each unique mural raises awareness of the community's role in preventing child abuse and neglect. For the first time, PFSA is launching a virtual Painting for Prevention project in April 2022! In partnership with our Community-Based











Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) Network, PFSA has developed a statewide symbol for prevention and delivered canvases and paint supplies to CBCAP members for participation. Everyone who received a canvas is encouraged to share their work of art virtually on social media using **#ProtectPAKids** to promote unity for preventing child abuse and neglect across Pennsylvania. Be sure to check out PFSA's social media throughout April to see this program in action!

FOCUSING ON THE FUTURE

Virtual Fundraiser. At PFSA, we know there is so much more we must do to continue protecting our children and families, and PFSA is committed to leading the charge and supporting others. But we know that as landscapes change and circumstances evolve, what works today will likely not work tomorrow.

We are devoted to our mission while remaining innovative and agile in our approach. We may not always know when we will have to pivot, but we are ready and willing to do so when the

time comes. This is why we have launched our Blue Ribbon Virtual Fundraiser throughout April, which will help us invest in future education, training, and resources for families and professionals. This is just one way someone can help to **#ProtectPAKids** and invest in a brighter future. Please visit our website to learn more: **pafsa.org/about-pa-blue-ribbon-champion**

CBCAP Network. PFSA is committed to supporting families and protecting children each day, 365 days a year. But we are not alone in this endeavor. We work with some of the most inspiring, innovative, and committed agencies throughout Pennsylvania. These agencies make up our CBCAP Network, and they are at the heart of what we do.

This statewide network creates a strong and united group that, together, promotes positive, safe, and healthy family development. These unified efforts support the pathway toward a brighter future for Pennsylvania families and children. None of the work we do would be possible without these vital partners. Thank you to ALL of our CBCAP Network agencies!

Thank You

TO OUR SPONSORS













A special thanks to our amazing sponsors throughout Child Abuse Prevention Month. We are thankful for your support!

CBCAP MEMBER HIGHLIGHT Children's Advocacy Center of Butler County

PFSA would like to welcome the Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) of Butler County as one of our newest members of the CBCAP Network!

CAC of Butler County was established in 2013 with the mission to "Empower our community to ensure the safety, health, and well-being of children and families." PFSA is proud to support this mission, and we look forward to the opportunity to work in partnership to prevent child abuse.

Welcome to the CBCAP Network!

Learn more about the organization at **butlercountycac.org**.



Making a Difference One Child at a Time

If you are interested in joining PFSA's CBCAP Network, please contact our Program Services Manager, Justin Donofrio, at jdonofrio@pafsa.org, or visit our website to learn more: pafsa.org/cbcap-program.

UPCOMING 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 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/mandated**-

reporter-training

INDIVIDUAL ONLINE, ON-DEMAND

Cost: \$30

Take anytime: 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. 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

Did You Know?

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** to learn more!



Donate to PFSA

Support the cause, support PA kids!

Consider giving a gift to PFSA to make a difference in the lives of PA kids and families. Your gift will advance the mission of PFSA to provide education, support, and training to make Pennsylvania safe for children.

All donations help PFSA continue the successful delivery of training, development of educational materials, and ongoing support for community-based agencies. Visit pafsa.org to learn more about our services and to donate.

be broken down by year: \$400/year one, \$300/year two, \$300/year three)

Dates: May 12 & 13, 2022 (virtual) 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.