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New Child Abuse, Neglect Virtual Training Now Available for Mandated Reporters At No Cost

Pa. Family Support Alliance to host state-approved trainings throughout August

HARRISBURG, **Pa.** – The PA Family Support Alliance (PFSA), Pennsylvania's leading statewide child abuse prevention organization, announced today that new virtual trainings on recognizing child abuse and neglect are now available to help mandated reporters better understand child neglect and how best to respond to it.

PFSA will host the three-hour **Recognizing and Responding to Child Abuse and Neglect** training throughout August at no cost to mandated reporters, or those Pennsylvania law requires to report suspected abuse and neglect of a child.

"Neglect data continues to tell a concerning story. Unfortunately, poverty is often misidentified as neglect. While poverty is a risk factor for child neglect, poverty does not equal neglect and it is so very important for everyone working and volunteering with children to know the difference," said Angela Liddle, PFSA's president and CEO. "This new training provides mandated reporters with the tools and resources to help them better understand what neglect looks like and how to respond to ensure that all Pennsylvania children can thrive in their homes and communities."

The training is intended for mandated reporters who have previously completed training on recognizing and reporting child abuse. Participants will learn how to recognize signs of neglect in children; determine when and how to make a referral to ChildLine, Pennsylvania's 24-hour hotline to report abuse; understand General Protective Services and agency procedures; and develop prevention and intervention strategies.

The trainings have been approved by the Pennsylvania Departments of Human Services, Education and State, and meet all requirements for recognizing and reporting child abuse, including those for school employees, continuing-education credits and ongoing professional education. PFSA will submit training verifications to the Departments of State and Education upon completion.

To learn more information about or to register for a training, please visit https://pafsa.org/mandated-reporter-training/.

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About Pennsylvania Family Support Alliance

<u>PA Family Support Alliance</u> prevents child abuse and protects children from harm by helping parents learn positive parenting techniques, educating professionals and volunteers who work with children to recognize and report child abuse, and helping community members learn how they can play a positive role in keeping children safe. To learn more about our programs, schedule a training, or donate, please visit pa-fsa.org, or call 800-448-4906.