April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

The Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families coordinates activities for Child Abuse Prevention Month through the work of the Strengthening Families Washington team.

The Pinwheels for Prevention campaign is part of the Prevent Child Abuse America national effort to raise awareness about child abuse and neglect prevention. Almost 15,000 blue and silver pinwheels will be distributed around the state. The pinwheel is a timeless symbol of the joy and happiness of childhood and the symbol of the Pinwheels for Prevention campaign.

Every act that builds protective factors in families is an act of prevention. These can be a parent spending quality time invested in their child, a child care provider providing resources or connection to other families, or a neighbor providing a meal to a family so the family can reduce stress and enjoy each other. Each pinwheel you see can be a reminder to inspire us all to support children having joyful and happy childhoods.

Proceeds from the pinwheel sales go to the Children’s Trust of Washington, housed at DCYF.

We invite everyone in Washington to participate in Wear Blue Day on April 5th to stand in solidarity against child abuse. It’s easy – just wear blue!
Proclamation

WHEREAS, all children deserve to grow up in a safe and nurturing environment to ensure they reach their full potential; and

WHEREAS, safe and healthy childhoods help produce confident and successful adults; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect often occur when people find themselves in stressful situations, without community resources and do not know how to cope; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect can be reduced by making sure every family has the support they need to raise their children in a healthy environment; and

WHEREAS, no one person can do everything, but everyone can do something, and together, we can create change for the better; and

WHEREAS, dialing the Department of Social and Health Services’ (DSHS) toll-free number for reporting child neglect and abuse (1-866-ENDHARM) makes it easier to protect the vulnerable; and

WHEREAS, wearing or displaying a pinwheel in April will serve as a positive reminder that together, we can prevent child abuse and keep children safe;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim April 2019 as

Child Abuse Prevention Month

in Washington, and I urge all people in our state to join me in protecting and nurturing our children.

Signed this 6th day of March, 2019

[Signature]
Governor Jay Inslee
## Event Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3/31</td>
<td>Pinwheel Planting</td>
<td>1:00pm</td>
<td>Washington State Capitol</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pinwheel Planting</td>
<td></td>
<td>Tivoli Fountain, North</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lawn</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/5</td>
<td>Wear Blue Day</td>
<td>Friday, 4/5</td>
<td>Wear blue to show your</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>support of Child Abuse</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Prevention Month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/11</td>
<td>CANTASD Workforce Well-being Webinar</td>
<td>11-11:45</td>
<td>Online: <a href="https://cantasd.acf.hhs.gov/">https://cantasd.acf.hhs.gov/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/17</td>
<td>CANTASD Integrating Mindfulness Webinar</td>
<td>11-11:45</td>
<td>Online: <a href="https://cantasd.acf.hhs.gov/">https://cantasd.acf.hhs.gov/</a></td>
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Ms. King goes to Washington

Judy King, DCYF Director of Family Support Programs, testified on March 26 before the United States House of Representatives Committee on Education and Labor, Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Human Services. She testified on strengthening prevention and treatment of child abuse and neglect. Watch the full hearing online: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U3NlPlh474k

(Please note, hearing starts about 53 minutes in)

Need a brochure?
Strengthening Families Washington has resources to share. Washington residents and agencies may order hard copies of these materials by sending an email with their address and requested quantity to strengtheningfamilies@dcyf.wa.gov.

• Speak Up When You’re Down brochure
• Speak Up When You’re Down brochure (Spanish)
• Speak Up When You’re Down poster
• Have a Plan: Shaken Baby Syndrome Prevention brochure
• Have a Plan: Shaken Baby Syndrome Prevention brochure (Spanish)
Child Trends and Zero to Three recently released the 2019 State of Babies Yearbook. For the first time, this yearbook compares national and state-by-state data on the well-being of infants and toddlers. The current state of babies tells an important story about what it is like to be a young child in this country, and where we are headed as a nation. Far too many babies face persistent hardships—such as food insecurity, unstable housing and exposure to violence that undermines their ability to grow and thrive. To create a brighter future for all, we must implement policies based on science and budgets that make babies a priority.

5

Funding Opportunity

Strengthening Families Washington at DCYF is pleased to announce that funding is available for Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) programming. We are requesting Letters of Interest from Washington state organizations providing group-based parenting and education programs. The Letter of Interest form and application cover sheet are available on our website.

If you have any questions, please email strengtheningfamilies@dcyf.wa.gov. This website will be updated with an FAQ and is updated every Friday at 5:00 p.m. Please visit: webpage at https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/about/government-community/community-engagement.

Please share this opportunity with community partners and organizations throughout the state. We are hoping to have great reach throughout the state. Deadline is Friday, April 5 by 5:00 p.m.

Questions? Email strengtheningfamilies@dcyf.wa.gov.

In the News

Child Trends released a new tool that offers browsers a robust collection of data around child maltreatment, foster care, kinship caregivers and adoption for all 50 states, Puerto Rico and Washington, D.C. The figures are drawn from the most recent Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) report, the U.S. Census Bureau and other sources. All the information is pegged to national trendlines for comparison purposes.

Washington handles runaway foster kids with handcuffs, shackles and jail. Is there a better way? Seattle Times
She is 14, and looking for a family. She had one once. Her mom died of cancer a couple of years ago, and her dad killed himself five months later. She became a ward of the state. But the state, as she sees it, doesn’t know what do with her. Short on foster families willing to take teens, it first parked her in a group facility.

2019 State of Babies Yearbook

Child Trends and Zero to Three recently released the 2019 State of Babies Yearbook. For the first time, this yearbook compares national and state-by-state data on the well-being of infants and toddlers.

There is a profile of each state included related to policies and programs to help babies and toddlers.
As you are probably aware, February was Parent Recognition month.

Throughout the month, DCYF and Seattle’s Child Magazine celebrated by honoring 28 Unsung Heroes, one for each day of the month. To see all the honorees, visit Seattle’s Child’s news page.

And in the meantime, check out photos from our dinner celebrating all the honorees.