

INSERT COUNCIL LOGO

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: [Name of Council Contact]

Tel. xxx-xxx-xxx

Email: [insert local contact email]

**APRIL IS NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH
But Preventing Child Abuse is the Work of Everyone, Everyday**

[City, GA, Date] — April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month, and Prevent Child Abuse (PCA) Georgia will join its 44 community-based chartered councils, including [insert name of your council], to focus on the responsibility that we all share for the health and well-being of children, not just in April, but everyday of the year.

Throughout the month, communities in Georgia and all over the U.S. will participate in activities to raise awareness for child abuse prevention, and to renew their commitment to valuing the life of every child.

According to DePriest Waddy, Chief Executive Officer of PCA Georgia, “It’s not enough to recognize that child abuse exists. Preventing child abuse means understanding the conditions that make children vulnerable to harm and taking the action necessary to improve those conditions. As members of families, neighborhoods and communities,” he adds, “all adults share the responsibility for the safety of children, and each has opportunities to help insure that children grow up nurtured, safe and healthy. Preventing child abuse is the work of everyone, everyday.”

[insert name of local contact] of [insert name of your council] says, “During the month of April, we want to increase awareness about child abuse prevention in [name of community]. As we come together, we want to acknowledge the good work that is taking place here. Let’s spotlight our accomplishments, and do more of that good work. [insert local program info here if desired]. Please join us. Child abuse prevention is a shared responsibility and is important every day of the year.”

[insert name of local contact] offers suggestions of what individuals can do to help prevent child abuse:

- Share PCA Georgia’s 1-800-CHILDREN Helpline number as a source of support and access to community resources.
- Partner with parents. Acknowledge that parenting is hard work. Understand that all parents have strengths and help families build on those strengths.
- Know your neighbors and watch out for children in your neighborhood. Make your community a place where people support and look out for one another.
- Reach out to children with a smile or word of encouragement. It means a lot!
- Advocate for policies and programs that support children and family stability.
- Give of your time and resources to organizations working to build strong families and healthy communities.

-MORE-

About Prevent Child Abuse (PCA) Georgia

Prevent Child Abuse (PCA) Georgia and its community-based chartered council network have provided leadership for the prevention of child maltreatment more than 25 years, and share the core values of valuing children, strengthening families and engaging communities.

To find out more about child abuse and ways to prevent it, contact [insert local contact] at [insert local phone number], or call PCA Georgia's Helpline at 1-800-CHILDREN (244.5373). Information is also available at [insert local council website if applicable] or www.pcageorgia.org.

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