



MEDIA ADVISORY

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Local nonprofit drives awareness of child abuse and neglect through series of April events

Florence, KY – A common response to hearing about child abuse and neglect is “That only happens in other neighborhoods.”

Statistically, that’s not true. Both abuse and neglect affect wealthy and low-income neighborhoods and every area in between.

In 2021, Boone, Campbell and Kenton counties reported more than 3,000 cases of abuse and neglect. That same year, Hamilton County had nearly 1,200 cases of abuse and neglect. It’s estimated one in four children in Northern Kentucky/ Greater Cincinnati will experience child abuse or neglect before their 18th birthday.

Family Nurturing Center is marking National Child Abuse Prevention Month in April by hosting special events aimed at spreading awareness of how to prevent, recognize and report abuse and neglect.

Family Nurturing Centers strives to end the cycle of child abuse by promoting individual well-being and healthy family relationships. All of its services are completely **free** --- families don’t pay anything for the programs. The nonprofit serves 12,000 people annually, including 300 Hamilton County foster families weekly.

The agency invites the community to take part in:

- **Blue Ribbon Ceremony on April 5**

Family Nurturing Center launches National Child Abuse Prevention Month with our **free** Blue Ribbon Ceremony:

Friday, April 5 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Tom Gill Chevrolet, 7830 Commerce Drive in Florence, Kentucky

The event:

- Celebrates the 20th anniversary of Tom Gill hosting the ceremony
- Promotes Family Nurturing Center’s child abuse prevention programs
- Honors children affected by abuse and neglect by tying blue ribbons to the fence line surrounding the dealership

The blue ribbon gained significance after a boy lost his life at the hands of his parent. His grandmother wanted to generate awareness of the issue of child abuse and tied a blue ribbon to her car antennae. Today the blue ribbon is recognized internationally as the symbol for child abuse prevention.

- **Wear Blue Day in Kentucky on April 5**

- **Wear Blue Day in Ohio on April 10**

Show support for Child Abuse Prevention Month by promoting Wear Blue Day on Friday, April 5, in Kentucky and Wednesday, April 10, in Ohio. Please post photos on social media using the tags #WearBlue4KYKids #OhioWearsBlue #FamilyNurturingCenter #stopchildabuse

- **Prom for a Purpose on April 19**

Funds raised through the 3rd Annual Prom for a Purpose benefits Family Nurture Center's commitment to cultivating safe children, thriving families and nurturing communities. The prom is your chance to relive your high school prom --- or get that second chance at a more memorable dance. Tickets are \$125 each.

Friday, April 19 from 7-11 p.m.

Turfway Park Racing & Gaming, 7500 Turfway Road in Florence, Kentucky

- **Blue Sunday on April 28**

Places of worship for all faiths are asked to join together in a day of prayer on Sunday, April 28. A national movement, Blue Sunday demonstrates support for children and families who have been affected by abuse and shows appreciation to those who care for abused or neglected children.

Details on each of the events can be found on www.FamilyNurture.org

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