



MEDIA ADVISORY

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Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky Announces 31 Partners in Child Abuse Prevention Month Letter

Lexington, KY- Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky (PCAK) urged its partners this month to take a pledge and recommit to safeguarding the welfare and health of children. Family Nurturing Center joins 30 community partners, including nonprofits, government agencies, and healthcare agencies, in signing the pledge.

The letter is included in its entirety below:

Children who live in families with access to economic and concrete supports are less likely to experience abuse and neglect. And science shows positive childhood experiences—like loving caregivers and safe, stable, and nurturing relationships—can help mitigate the negative impact of adverse childhood experiences (ACES). And it's not just the parent or caregiver's responsibility to provide this environment. We all have a responsibility to ensure children have positive experiences, and help families access the resources they need, when they need them, before they are in crisis.

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month, a time when Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky and our Partners across the commonwealth connect with families, communities, prevention advocates, and supporters to build a narrative of hope for children and families through collaboration and the creation of an ecosystem of primary prevention.

Sometimes, overburdened parents and caregivers may be unable to provide the necessary care and support to their children and simply need help. We are actively building a hopeful future by creating an ecosystem of prevention that does not currently exist. This will require the work of our network and yours. You can join us in this work to protect children, Kentucky's most vulnerable people.

Together, let's ask our leaders and policymakers to further prioritize kids and invest in more family-strengthening policies, economic supports, and community-based child abuse prevention programs at the national, state, and local levels.

Child abuse prevention is hard work, but we believe there is an army of us who believe in the vision of a great future for all children. Together, we can prevent child abuse because childhood lasts a lifetime.

We, Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky, and the undersigned Partners in Prevention, stand united in reaffirming our commitment, and are asking you to join us, as we build a more hopeful future for Kentucky children, youth, families, and communities.

- We encourage you to take a moment to do one or more of these steps to become an active
- part of your local community's social support system.
- Reach out to a neighbor, friend, classmate, or coworker and be intentional in offering ways you can provide support.
- When you see an overwhelmed parent, offer their child a compliment or tell the parent they are doing a good job.
- Know your neighbors! Exchange phone numbers for emergencies or other needs.
- Offer to help parents research local resources. It can be intimidating to find what you need when you are in crisis.
- Take the Lean On Me Kentucky Pledge and become a Community Supporter. For more information visit pcaky.org/about/lean-on-me-kentucky.

And remember, families with these supports are less likely to abuse or neglect their children:

- Ability to manage stress
- Positive relationships
- Supportive community and resources
- Knowledge of child development and caregiving strategies
- Having their basic needs met

PCAK is urging the public to review the list of partners who have signed this pledge to identify any local organizations within their community. Individuals are encouraged to reach out to these partners and inquire about how they can help support their commitment to protecting children across Kentucky. Those interested can find more information about Child Abuse Prevention Month events and resources on the PCAK website at www.pcaky.org

About Family Nurturing Center

Family Nurturing Center is a nonprofit with offices in Florence, Kentucky, and Cincinnati, Ohio, dedicated to ending the cycle of child abuse by promoting individual well-being and healthy family relationships. Services include education and training, counseling, parenting time visitation, parenting, and holistic and wellness programs.

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31 Partners in Prevention Join Together to Prevent Child Abuse

1. Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky
2. Adoption Support for Kentucky
3. Appalachian Early Childhood Network
4. Athena Women's Health
5. Behavioral Health Group
6. Boyle County Agency for Substance Abuse Policy
7. Boys and Girls Club of Somerset
8. Care Cottage/Kentucky River CAC
9. Care Net Pregnancy Services of Northern Kentucky
10. CASA of Graves County & Southwest KY
11. CASA of Midwest Kentucky, Inc.
12. CASA of the Northern Bluegrass Region
13. Children's Advocacy Center of Green River District
14. Children's Advocacy Center of the Bluegrass
15. Clarkson Elementary Family Resource Center
16. Danville Families First FRC
17. Family Enrichment Center, Inc.
18. Family Nurturing Center
19. Foster Adoptive Parent Association of Northern Kentucky
20. Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives
21. McNary Group
22. Norton Children's Medical Group affiliated with the UL School of Medicine
23. Omni Visions foster care agency
24. Regional Prevention Center of Comprehend, Inc.
25. Safe Touch Family Counseling
26. SBC, LLC
27. Silverleaf Sexual Trauma Recovery Services
28. Stevenson Elementary Family Resource Center
29. Telford YMCA
30. The Kentucky CASA Network, Inc.
31. The Kentucky Center for Grieving Children and Families