



PRESS RELEASE

March 21, 2022

Date of Event: April 4, 2022, 1:30 PM

Location: Kinsman House, 303 Mahoning Ct, NW., Warren OH

Description: Pinwheels for Prevention – Trumbull County kick-off event for Child Abuse Prevention Month

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Trumbull County Children Services Kicks off Child Abuse Prevention Month with Pinwheel Display and Encourages Vigilance in Reporting Child Abuse

Warren, Ohio, April 4, 2022: Trumbull County Children Services (TCCS) will hold their annual Pinwheels for Prevention event at the Kinsman House on Monday, April 4, 2022 at 1:30 pm. Tim Schaffner, the Executive Director of TCCS, will address the importance of “see something, say something,” especially during times when children may be isolated. The City of Warren Mayor, Doug Franklin, Ohio State Representative (64th), Michael O’Brien, and Trumbull County Commissioners will also be in attendance.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month; and the Pinwheels for Prevention Awareness Campaign is the kick-off event. TCCS has held the Pinwheels for Prevention Campaign for the last 16 years. Throughout the month of April our staff will wear blue t-shirts with the tagline, “Children are Our Tomorrow,” as a show of our unwavering support for a safe, loving home for every child.

Our traditional pinwheel garden will be planted at the Kinsman House on April 2 by the Touch of Class Horse Club. The display will hold 1,519 pinwheels each representing one report of child maltreatment in Trumbull County in 2021. The pinwheels also represent the adults who became an advocate for a child by reporting suspected abuse or neglect. The Trumbull County Courthouse and Warren City Hall will be lit with blue lights throughout April in recognition of child abuse prevention.

Pinwheels for Prevention is based on the belief that while the public understands that child abuse is a serious problem, there is less understanding of what it means to prevent child abuse and neglect and the role we play in speaking up for prevention. Here are steps we can all take as a community to ensure our children are safe.

1. For the safety of any child, “if you see something, say something.” In addition to mandated reporters any concerned citizen can make a good faith report to Children Services when abuse or neglect is suspected. Your report is 100% anonymous.
2. Learn more about child abuse prevention and become a messenger for prevention. Our agency has a speaker’s bureau of employees who will present to community groups about our services and prevention.
3. Lend your voice to bring about change for children in the United States and affect the policies that impact children and their communities.
4. Volunteer your time and talent to organizations that focus on children and their families and helping our community bring services to families with mental illness, substance abuse, and violence, which in most cases play a role in child maltreatment.

5. Consider becoming a foster caregiver or a mentor to a child in our care. These compassionate members of our team stand in the gap for our kids, while our agency works with families to create safe and stable homes for their return.

For more information about our services, or to learn more about becoming a foster caregiver or a mentor to a child in our care, please contact our Community Liaison/Recruitment Specialist, Michelle Schmader, 330-372-2010, ext. 1343, or michelle.schmader@jfs.ohio.gov.

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