

## Sample Child Abuse Prevention month activities

**Pinwheels for Prevention** – Distribute and/or display pinwheels (pinwheel gardens) visibly in your community, schools, businesses, etc...to show the number of children served by your organization. Include brief descriptions, stories, examples, and/or individual quotes from adults and/or children with each pinwheel.

**Essay/Poster Contest** – Contact local schools and arrange an essay or poster contest. Give the students a theme such as “Recipe for a Happy Family” and provide modest prizes such as trophies or gift certificates. All materials publicizing the event should include child abuse prevention information.

**Grocery Bag Art** – Ask a local grocer to donate paper bags for school children to decorate. Contact local schools and arrange for students to decorate the bags with art work Give the decorated bags back to the grocer for use in April. Send notes home with students about the project. All materials publicizing the event should include child abuse prevention information, parent education and support resources.

**Family Carnival** – Games, rides, food, and fun – who could resist? Contact local businesses and ask them to sponsor this event with specific monetary donations in return for signage, exhibit space, and mentions in all materials. Distribute positive parenting information and brochures.

**Awards Luncheon** – Sponsor a luncheon to honor individuals in your community who work with children and families. Invite the media, provide awards, and recognize the work of your colleagues while publicizing your cause.

**Blue Ribbon for Kids<sup>TM</sup> Campaign** – Work with law enforcement officers, teachers, school athletic directors, childcare professionals, pediatricians, civic groups, faith organizations, and businesses to distribute blue ribbons and brochures throughout the month of April.

**Public Presentations** – Conduct informational presentations to local service clubs, groups and organizations. Distribute free parenting brochures to all who attend.

**Parenting Workshops** – Conduct a parenting workshop at a local community center, school, or church. Distribute free parenting information and support resources to attendees.

**Family Health Fair** – Coordinate with a local hospital, clinic, or physician to sponsor a Family Health Fair. Distribute information, brochures, and blue ribbons. Ask businesses and medical supply companies to provide merchandise or donate a percentage of sales to child abuse prevention efforts.

### Or...idea potpourri

- Ask pediatricians to set up brochures, information, parent support and education displays in their offices.
- Distribute brochures, parent support and education resources at all area childcare centers.
- Ask banks and other business with lighted marquis signs to put Child Abuse Prevention month information on the signs.
- Distribute bookmarks with parenting tips and ideas to all libraries.
- Ask high school art clubs to paint windows of local businesses with Child Abuse Prevention theme for the month.
- Host a Parent Party and invite all parents to participate.
- Distribute ribbons and goody bags at hospital emergency rooms and birthing centers.
- Work with schools to distribute information to all students and parents.
- Request that businesses in town display positive parenting posters and pledge a small percentage of their profits to child abuse prevention efforts.
- Have local community leaders read PSAs at local radio stations and identify themselves on air.
- Hold “lunch and learn” sessions on parenting at local businesses.
- Hold “Mom’s Day Out” and “Dad’s Day Out” events and provide parent education materials.
- Ask children in pre-schools and schools to provide recipes for a cookbook fundraiser.
- Distribute Post-It notepads with pre-printed parenting tips to community businesses, schools, and other organizations.



Your activities are only limited by your imagination!

**Prevent Child Abuse Iowa**

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