

APRIL IS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH.

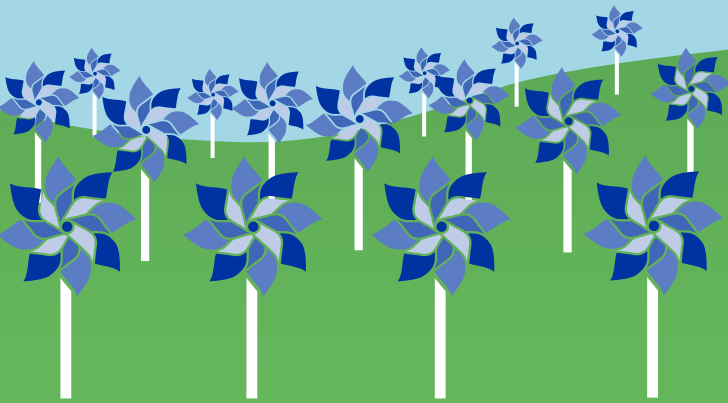
#CAPMonth2024 #BuildingTogether #HopefulFutures



Come help us build
hopeful futures
for kids today!

BUILDING
*A Hopeful
Future*
TOGETHER

THE PINWHEEL Garden



HISTORICAL SYMBOL

In 2008, Prevent Child Abuse America introduced the pinwheel as the national symbol of child abuse prevention through its Pinwheels for Prevention® program. Used as a symbol of the whimsy and joy that all children should experience, these awareness pinwheels can be handed out to students, church groups, and members of social service organizations as a physical and poignant reminder of the bright futures that all children deserve.

WHAT IS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH?

All children deserve happy childhoods and bright futures. As such, since 1983, April has been designated as Child Abuse Prevention month. Each April, communities are encouraged to increase awareness about child and family well-being and work together to implement effective strategies that support families and prevent child abuse and neglect. The color for child abuse awareness is blue and the symbol for child abuse prevention is the blue and silver pinwheel used across the nation to promote awareness activities throughout the month.

HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

Pinwheels for Prevention® campaigns provide a unique opportunity for individuals and organizations to take action. You can show your support for our nation's children and help get your children involved in the movement by:

- Making your own pinwheel display.
- Taking a visible and noteworthy step by planting a virtual Pinwheel Garden.
- Ordering a "Community Pinwheel Kit" which includes 480 pinwheels, 480 chopsticks (to make planting easy), and 10-yard signs with stakes, and organizing a local pinwheel awareness activity in your community.
- Purchasing the pinwheel package (with 24 pinwheels and a yard sign) and planting them in your own front yard.
- Displaying pinwheels in vases on front desks at your business or organization.
- Planting pinwheels in flowerpots or planters if you don't have any green space to use.



The pinwheel represents our efforts to change the way our nation thinks about prevention, focusing on community activities and public policies that prioritize prevention right from the start to make sure child abuse and neglect never occur.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

At Strengthening Families Washington, we support communities that work with families to build Protective Factors and support parents. Parenting is hard and there is no one way to parent.

Families, and children, can find love and support in many ways – through places in communities that offer a sense of belonging, to teachers who inspire and lift children, or through a social worker, stepping in and offering supports and guidance to families struggling. April, [Child Abuse Prevention Month](#), is a time to celebrate and lift-up the places and people in your community that celebrate the importance of children and their families. You, too, through your partnerships with families and community partner, can [build protective factors](#) by recognizing the strengths and resiliency support in families and community.

The Washington State [Department of Children, Youth, and Families \(DCYF\)](#) coordinates activities for [Child Abuse Prevention Month](#) through the work of the Strengthening Families Washington team. All month long, DCYF, organizations and individuals throughout Washington and our country plan activities and promote messages to remind us of the importance of positive childhood experience and that we all have a role to play.

The [Pinwheels for Prevention campaign](#) is part of the Prevent Child Abuse America national effort to raise awareness about child abuse and neglect prevention. Almost 15,000 blue and silver pinwheels will be distributed around the state. The pinwheel is a timeless symbol of the joy and happiness of childhood and the symbol of the Pinwheels for Prevention campaign.

Every act that builds [protective factors](#) in families is an act of prevention. These can be a parent spending quality time invested in their child, a child care provider providing resources or connection to other families, or a neighbor providing a meal to a family so the family can reduce stress and enjoy each other. Each pinwheel you see can be a reminder to inspire us all to support children having joyful and happy childhoods.

Proceeds from the pinwheel sales go to the [Children's Trust of Washington](#), housed at DCYF.

In addition to our pinwheels, we also want to invite everyone in Washington to participate in [Wear Blue Day on April 5th](#) to stand in solidarity against child abuse. It's easy – just wear blue!

We work closely with our partners because we cannot do this alone. No one can do this alone. From our family to yours, thanks for your support.



The Strengthening Families Washington Team



The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, all children deserve to grow up in a safe and nurturing environment to ensure they reach their full potential; and

WHEREAS, safe and healthy childhoods help produce confident and successful adults; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect often occur when people find themselves in stressful situations, without community resources, and not knowing how to cope; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect can be reduced by making sure every family has the support they need to raise their children in a healthy environment; and

WHEREAS, no one person can do everything, but everyone can do something, and together we can create change for the better; and

WHEREAS, dialing the Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families' (DCYF) toll-free number 1-866-ENDHARM makes it easier to protect the vulnerable; and

WHEREAS, wearing or displaying a pinwheel in April will serve as a positive reminder that together we can prevent child abuse and keep children safe;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim April 2024 as

Child Abuse Prevention Month

in Washington, and I urge all people in our state to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 22nd day of January, 2024

Governor Jay Inslee



Friday, April 5

is

Wear Blue Day

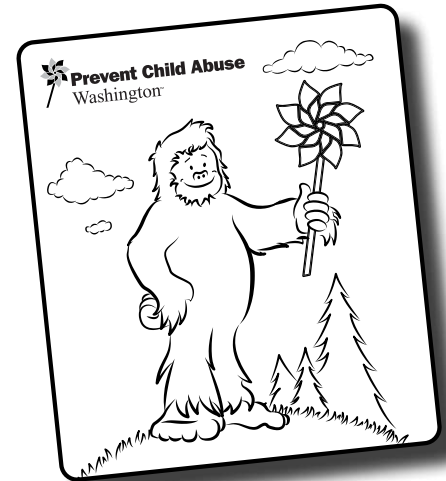
Why do we wear blue? It's more than a color; it's a symbol of our fight against child abuse.



Available This Year

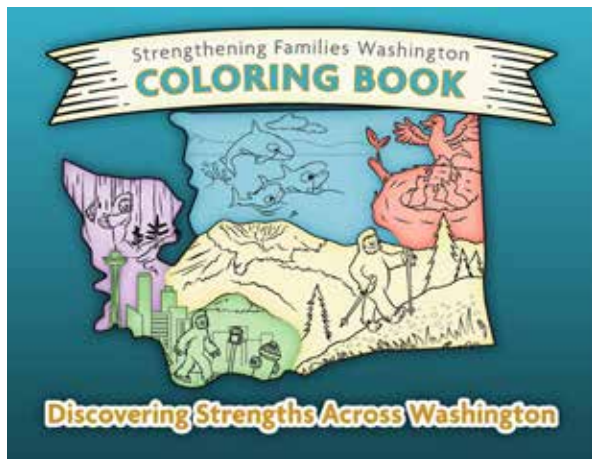
In addition to pinwheels, there are several items that have been developed that could be for your organizations or families and community members your organization interacts with.

CAP Month Poster Kit with Protective Factors and a Plant Your Own Pinwheel Display



[Pinwheel Coloring Campaign for Children Across the State](#)

That Leads Back to Our [Protective Factors Coloring Book](#)



And Our [What Makes a Hero Coloring Book](#)



Or try out our temporary tattoos!

Contact
StrengtheningFamilies@DCYF.WA.GOV
for more information

HEROES ARE EVERYWHERE!



April is

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

Let a parent, caregiver, guardian (or Sasquatch) know why they're a HERO to you!

Find out more at

<https://dcyf.wa.gov/services/child-development-supports/sfwa>



Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

Ways You Can Be A Hero

Bring a meal to family

Support accessibility in schools, playgrounds or your community

Connect a family with services- early intervention, diaper bank, food pantry, crisis nursery or perinatal mental health services

Support- or become- a foster family

How can you be a hero today?

Concrete Goods as a Primary Support for Washington Families

Access to Concrete Supports in times of need, ensures families have the resources necessary to live. These supports come in various forms, including material goods like grocery gift cards and hygiene supplies, economic assistance such as housing support, and services like helping with healthcare arrangements or providing counseling. Access to these resources results in a reduction of parental stress which increases family security and the well-being of children.

Unfortunately, not everyone can access these necessities and it is becoming increasingly challenging as inflation rises and many Federal economic supports that were bolstered during the pandemic are reaching their end.

Family Economic Insecurity and Child Welfare

Economic hardship and the resulting parental stress can impact a parent's ability to meet their family's needs. Persistent stressful conditions such as extreme poverty can lead to "toxic stress," which research shows results in the likelihood of neglect investigations increasing nearly threefold. If families experience multiple types of hardship, after experiencing no hardship, the likelihood of being investigated for physical abuse nearly quadruples.

Facilitating access to essential assistance reduces parental stress and the risk of maltreatment. By providing concrete goods to families, we can limit the barriers of access to these necessities, decrease family engagement with the department, and protect children at the root by ensuring family well-being.

"The future prosperity of any society depends on its ability to foster the health and well-being of the next generation. When a society invests wisely in children and families, the next generation will pay that back through a lifetime of productivity and responsible citizenship." -FrameWorks Institute

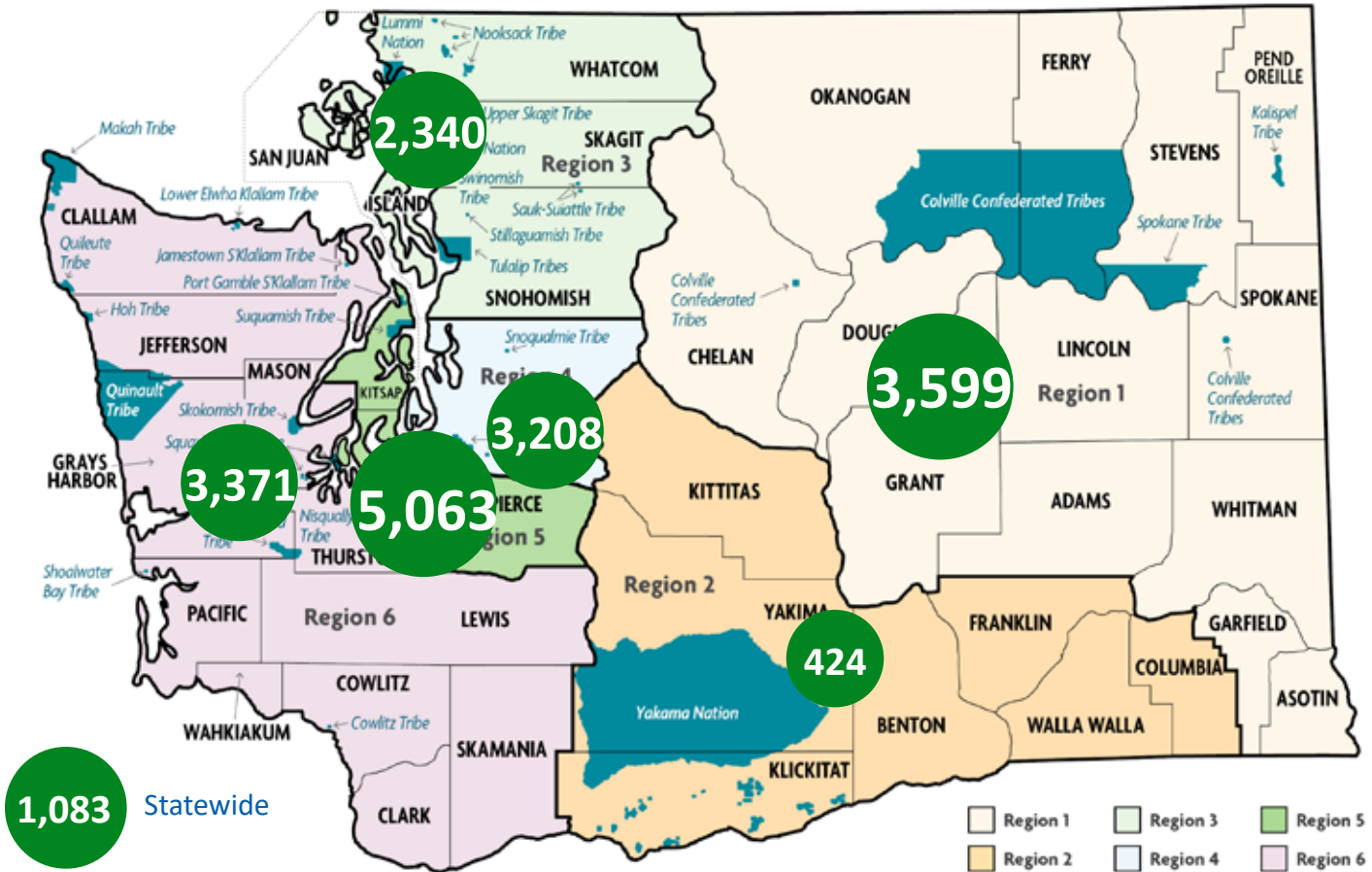
Concrete supports in times of need: Access to concrete supports and services that addresses a family's needs and helps minimize stress caused by challenges



"This is the moment to build a child and family well-being system that propels families to grow and thrive together – on their own terms." -Dr. Melissa T. Merrick, President and CEO of Prevent Child Abuse America

Number of Families Served

by 51 organizations statewide



Types of Goods										
Diapers and Baby Supplies	Grocery Gift Card/ Groceries/ Food	School Supplies	Hygiene Supplies	Gift Card - Other	Household Items/ Furniture	Cleaning Supplies	Gas GC/ Gas/ Bus Pass/ Auto Repair/	Clothes	Short Term Bills/ Rent/ Temp. Housing	Employment Assistance
41,097	4,317	2,248	2,184	2,106	1,737	607	504	502	97	29

“My name is Lisa and I continue to be grateful for Family Works. After living in my car with my daughter for a couple months, I was directed to Family Works from a list of resources. When I showed up there everyone was so happy and kind to me. I was given many of the little things we usually take for granted, but I needed the toothpaste, the regular food bags, the clothes, the number of shelters, a phone and a tablet to keep in good communications with SO MANY People helping me to find and locate an apartment for my daughter and myself. There was a time when I was preschool teacher to _____ and many other children in her community, one day she said to me “Lisa, you took care of our children, let us take care of you!” I truly felt that village community and believe I Will get back on my feet due to _____ and the many other people who have helped my family at Family Works. I am truly grateful for being held and seen and heard.” -Lisa, WA mom

Current Funded Programs

Home Visiting Programs

Atlantic Street Center
Benton Franklin Health District
Brigid Collins Family Support Center
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Yakima
Chelan Douglas Health District
Child Care Action Council
Children's Home Society of Washington- Spokane
Children's Home Society of Washington- Walla Walla
ChildStrive- NFP
ChildStrive- PAT
Chinese Information Center
Clark County Public Health
Columbia Basin Health Association
Community Youth Services
Cowlitz Indian Tribe Child Care Development Program
Denise Louie Education Center
Eastern Washington University
El Centro de la Raza
First Step Family Support Center
Friends of Youth
Gather Church
Grays Harbor County Public Health
Horn Of Africa Services
Hummingbird Indigenous Family Services
Institute for Family Development
InterCultural Child & Family Services
Jefferson County Public Health Dept
Lummi Indian Business Council
Lydia Place
Mary Bridge Children's Foundation (MultiCare Health System)
Navos
Okanogan County Child Development Association
Open Arms Perinatal Services
Save The Children
Seattle- King County Public Health Dept
Skagit County Public Health Dept
Spokane Regional Health District
St. James Family Center
Suquamish Tribe
Tacoma Pierce County Health Dept
Thurston County Public Health and Social Services Dept
Tulalip Tribe
United Indians of All Tribes Foundation
West Africa Community Council
Whatcom County Health Dept
Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic
Yakima Valley Memorial Hospital Association

Perinatal Mental Health Community Capacity Building

Community Enrichment for Klickitat/Skamania Counties
Family Education & Support Services
First Step Family Support Center
Joyce L Sobel Family Support Center
NAMI Kittitas
Northwest Center
Okanogan County Child Development Association
Roots on the Road
The Learning Project
Thurston County Public Health & Social Services

Family Resource Center Capacity Building & Concrete Goods

Amara
Children's Village (MultiCare)
Family Works
Multicultural Child and Family Hope Center
Open Doors for Multicultural Families
Room One
Washington Gorge Action Programs (WAGAP)
YWCA/Homeward House

Current Funded Programs

Community Based Child Abuse Prevention Funded Programs

Center for Human Services- Promoting First Relationships
ChildStrive- Circle of Security Parenting Classes
East African Community Services- Wadajir Conscious Parenting
Esperanza Mobil Family Resource Center- Esperanza Mobil Family Resource Center Group-Based Café Parent Circles
Family Education & Support Services - Guiding Good Choices
First Step Family Support Center - Supporting Strong Tribal Families

Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe- Family Preservation Services
Lydia Place- Lydia Place Mental Health Program
Multicultural Child and Family Hope Center - Triple P Parenting
Perinatal Support Washington- Parent Education & Resilience Collaborative (PERC)
Vashon Youth and Family Services- Protective Factor Parent Cafes
Volunteers of America of Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho- Doula Services

Diaper Banks

Babies of Homelessness
Battle Ground Adventist
Dry Tikes and Wet Wipes
First 5 Fundamentals
KidVantage

Spokane Valley Partners
TriCities Diaper Bank
United Way Skagit County
WestSide Baby

Tribal Fatherhood Support

Lummi Nation, Lummi Youth Social Services
Snoqualmie Indian Tribe

United Indians of All Tribes Foundation

The Protective Factors

Each of our funded programs utilizes and promotes one or more of the protective factors through their programs. Research has found that these five Protective Factors reduce stress and promote the well-being of ALL families. Everyone has stress, but when families increase Protective Factors, they build and draw on natural support networks within their families and communities.



Parental Resilience: I can overcome hard times.



Knowledge of Parenting and of Child/Youth Development: I know where to go to find out about parenting skills and my child's developmental growth.



Social Connections: I have people who know and support me



Concrete Supports: I know where to turn for help.



Social and Emotional Development: I know how to help my children talk about their feelings.



Prevent Child Abuse Washington™

Building a
Hopeful Future
Together!



Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

Download our Strengthening Families Washington Coloring book at
www.dcyf.wa.gov/services/child-development-supports/sfwa.
For more information contact strengtheningfamilies@dcyf.wa.gov.

DCYF does not discriminate and provides equal access to its programs and services for all persons without regard to race, color, gender, religion, creed, marital status, national origin, citizenship or immigration status, age, sexual orientation or gender identity, veteran or military status, status as a breastfeeding mother, and the presence of any physical, sensory, or mental disability or use of a dog guide or service animal. If you would like free copies of this publication in an alternative format or language, please contact DCYF Constituent Relations at 1-800-723-4831 or email communications@dcyf.wa.gov.

DCYF PUBLICATION FS_0035E (02-2024)