



I want to prevent child abuse and neglect in my community. What can I do?

Remember

children are the future

Children are our future. Their early years have an enormous impact on their future health and success. A clear community commitment to supporting children and the families raising them can result in a significant reduction of child abuse and neglect.

Recognize

prevention is a shared responsibility

Parenting is a tough job. It is an important civic contribution as well. We have the enormous responsibility to raise children to be productive members of society. We are responsible for ensuring that all parents and families have access to the support, information and services they need to succeed.

Reach out

to kids and parents

Anything you do to support children and parents in your family and extended community helps to reduce the likelihood of child abuse and neglect.

Raise

the issue of prevention

We all are concerned about child abuse and neglect. Prevention means creating the conditions necessary for families to be healthy and stable. Help your community develop an understanding of *prevention*.

Recommend

ideas that your community can use

There are many ways to support families.

Facilitate friendships and support to families through sports teams, potlucks, classes, and advisory groups.

Strengthen parenting skills through classes, support groups, home visits, and tips sheet in pediatricians' offices and libraries.

Respond to family crises by offering support to families when they need it as in times of illness or job loss. Let families know where to go for job training, education, health care, mental health and other essential services.



Prevent Child Abuse
Virginia

1-800CHILDREN

www.preventchildabuseva.org

Adapted from Building on Strengths: Enhancing Protective Factors for Children and Families, National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglect Information.