

*Sample Press Release*  
For Immediate Release



**Contact:** Name & Organization  
Phone Number  
Email Address

## Child Abuse Prevention Month Set For April

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month and (Name of Your Organization) is partnering with the Virginia Coalition for Child Abuse Prevention to raise awareness about what individuals, communities and organizations across the state can do to prevent child abuse and neglect.

Every year, Virginia statistics show that more than 6,000 Virginia children have suffered abuse or neglect from people they trust to nurture them. The facts and faces change each year, but these documented cases, and an additional 30,000 reports of suspected harm, remain steady.

Increasing economic woes can strain parents' relationships with their children. Access to parent education programs that teach appropriate coping skills are needed now more than ever.

The 2009 Child Abuse Prevention Month theme is *Building Strong Families, Growing Great Kids*.

Assisting with efforts to raise awareness this year is Child Abuse Prevention Month Honorary Chairman **Bryant Stith, a former NBA basketball star** and Lawrenceville, Virginia native. Since retiring in 2003, Stith has built athletic fields and established a charitable organization for youths. A father of four, he is serving as head coach of the Brunswick Bulldogs, the high school basketball team for which he once played.

Child Abuse Prevention Month activities in the local area will include:

- (Insert details about your community's events here)
- The planting of pinwheel "gardens" by organizations, schools and businesses throughout the area and the state. The pinwheel is a new symbol for child abuse prevention and reflects childhood hope, health and happiness. For a list of partnering organizations, visit [www.preventchildabuseva.org](http://www.preventchildabuseva.org).

To learn more about positive parenting and how to eliminate abuse and neglect, visit (insert your website), [www.preventchildabuseva.org](http://www.preventchildabuseva.org), or [www.dss.virginia.gov](http://www.dss.virginia.gov). To report suspected abuse and neglect, contact the Virginia Child Abuse Hotline at 1-800-552-7096. (Language line available)

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