

♥ Child Abuse Prevention Month Children's Activity ♥

In keeping with the theme for Child Abuse Prevention Month 2013, “**Insure Their Future: Invest in Children**,” we want to hear from boys and girls about their dreams and the people who can help them work toward what they want. To do that, we need your help.

We ask you to do the following:

- ☑ **Duplicate** the cut-out of a child included here in bright colors and give them to children at least 9 years of age. Consider doing this activity with students, neighbors, members of your congregation, youngsters in a youth serving institution, foster care, homeless shelters or your own children and relatives.

- ☑ **Ask** the child to think about what he or she hopes for. Have the child answer this question: “When I grow up I want.....and this is who can help me.” Give examples of people who can help. It is not necessary that children say a profession, although some will. Some boys and girls may talk about the kind of life desired. A child in foster care may dream about having a “forever family.” Another child may want to go to college to make a good living. Another youngster may hope for a safe place to live.

- ☑ **Invite** children to cut out the doll and write their thoughts on one side. On the other side, they should write only their *first name, age, and the city or county* where they live.

- ✉ **Mail** all completed dolls by April 1, 2013 to:
Prevent Child Abuse Virginia
2211 Dickens Road, Suite 204
Richmond, Virginia, 23230

The dolls will be displayed at our annual Child Abuse Prevention Conference. A selection will be read aloud to the audience during the event. We expect up to 500 participants and believe this response will serve as a powerful reminder of the importance of investing early, and the roles we can play with the children in our lives.

If you have questions, please e-mail Johanna Schuchert: jschuchert@pcav.org or Ann Childress: ann.childress@dss.virginia.gov

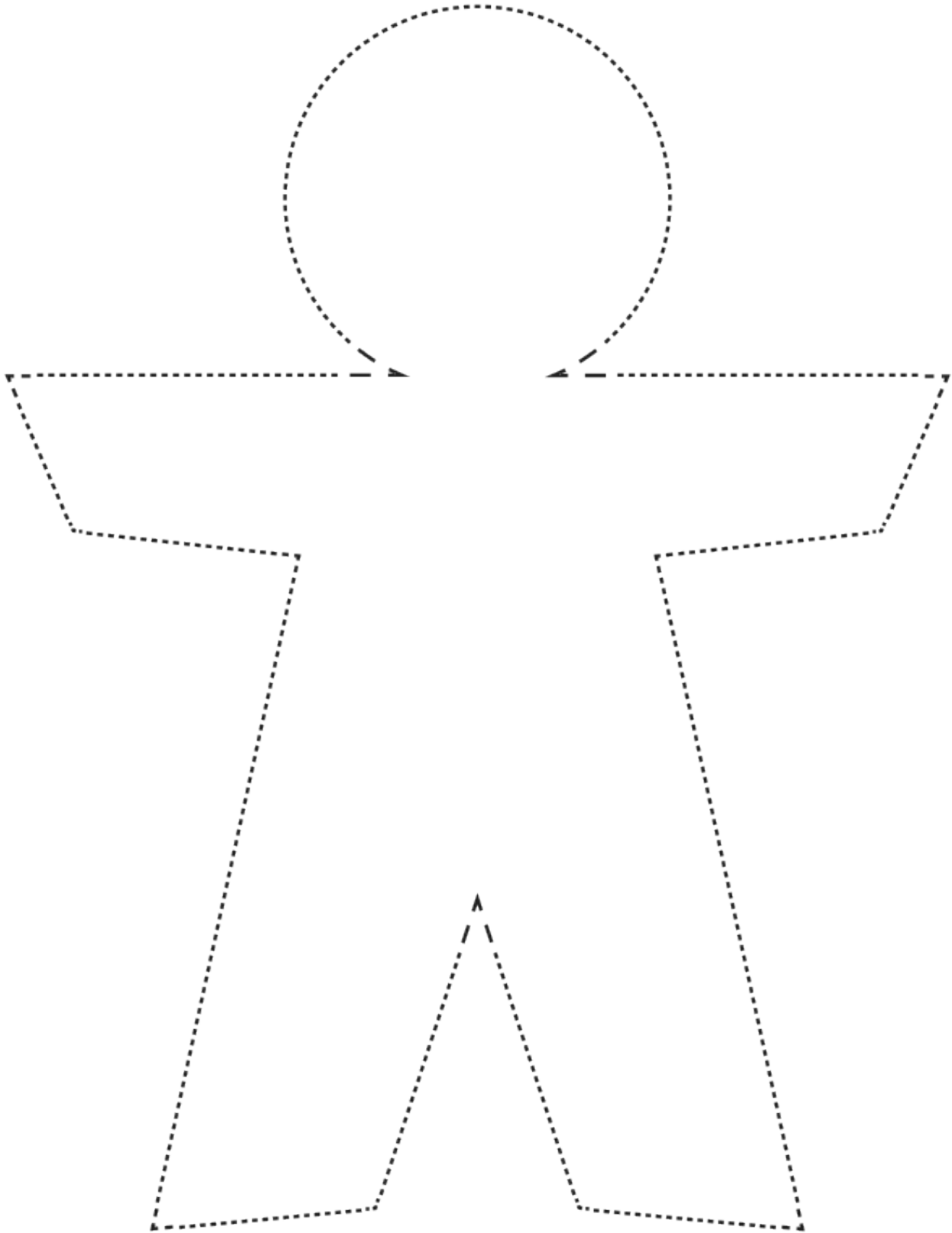


2013 Virginia Coalition for Child Abuse Prevention

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1-800-552-7096 Virginia Child Abuse Hotline (language line available)

800-Children (800-244-5373) Parent Helpline



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