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# Media Advisory

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**April 2023**

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## **APRIL IS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH PREVENTION IS A COMMUNITY AFFAIR**

One simple act of encouragement can go a long way in creating secure and loving environments for Ohio's children. "*Community: We are Stronger Together*" is the theme of Franklin County Children Services' campaign to highlight the need for community partners to assist with child abuse prevention. Franklin County residents are reminded that Children Services relies on community partners to assist with child abuse prevention. April is **Child Abuse Prevention Month** and is a great time to help children and families who may need education, resources, and support.

Franklin County Children Services (FCCS) is partnering with our Citizens Advisory Committee and the Ohio Children's Trust Fund (OCTF) to promote child abuse prevention in April. OCTF's awareness campaign features caring adults to help stem the tide of child abuse and neglect statewide. OCTF hosted a virtual kickoff event on April 6. Educational materials and resources can be found on their website at [www.OCTF.Ohio.gov](http://www.OCTF.Ohio.gov). Nationwide Children's Hospital will also host three, free training webinars throughout the month.

All Ohioans are encouraged to wear blue on April 12 to raise awareness for *Child Abuse Prevention Month*. Send your photos to [fccsoutreach@fccs.us](mailto:fccsoutreach@fccs.us) and we may post them on our Facebook page. Finally, April 13<sup>th</sup>, FCCS will hold their in-person, annual Child Abuse Prevention Breakfast. The event will highlight the work of community leaders, social workers along with youth and families who have overcome obstacles. Several FCCS youth will receive college scholarships for their efforts.

*To report suspected child abuse anywhere in Ohio, call toll-free 1-855-OH-CHILD. In Franklin County, the 24-hour hotline for reporting suspected child abuse is (614) 229-7000.*

## **Franklin County Children Services**

*Through collaboration with families and their communities, we advocate for the safety, permanency and well-being of each child we serve in a manner that honors family and culture.*