



NEWS RELEASE

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Help Prevent Child Abuse in Wake County during Child Abuse Prevention Month

In 2016, Wake County Child Protective Services accepted 4,943 reports of child abuse and neglect for assessment. During Child Abuse Prevention Month this April, Wake County is focusing on building strong, nurturing communities that support families. These communities can get involved and play a role in preventing child abuse and neglect by promoting child and family well-being.

“We know that child abuse, like any other trauma, is associated with poor physical health and mental health outcomes for children and their families,” said Sig Hutchinson, chair of the Wake County Board of Commissioners. “These negative effects can last a lifetime. That’s why this month is so important. We can’t let this abuse continue. We all have a role to play in keeping children safe, together, as a community.”

Residents interested in learning how they can get involved are encouraged to attend a Child Abuse Prevention Month event:

April 3, 5 p.m. – Wake County Board of Commissioners Meeting, [Justice Center](#)

Learn about prevention efforts throughout Wake County, followed by the reading of the Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation presented by Wake County Human Services and Prevent Child Abuse North Carolina.

April 15, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. – Celebration for Prevention, [Pullen Park](#)

Honor the lives of the 27 children in North Carolina who died from child abuse or neglect in 2016. The event will include information and resource tables, as well as family activities. This event is held in partnership with Raleigh Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources; Prevent Child Abuse North Carolina; Wake County Human Services and other community partners.

Pinwheel Plantings

Plant a pinwheel to honor those who helped you or your children be safe. The pinwheels will stand as a symbol of commitment to preventing child abuse in Wake County and the community’s determination to help children and teens live safe, healthy

lives. Dates and locations are available [online](#).

Prevention Trainings

Wake County will offer Darkness to Light child abuse prevention trainings throughout the month. Residents are encouraged to learn how to keep children safe in their communities. Dates and locations are available [online](#).

During National Child Abuse Prevention Month and throughout the year, Wake County encourages all individuals and organizations to play a role in making our community a better place for children and families. To learn more, visit our [website](#) or call the Child Welfare Office at 919-212-7474.

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