April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month!

National Child Abuse Prevention Month came to be in 1979 when the National Exchange Club officially adopted the prevention of child abuse as its National Project. The National Exchange Club Foundation and the National Exchange Club endorse the month of April each year as National Child Abuse Prevention Month. They have adopted the blue ribbon as a symbol of their commitment to the prevention of child abuse.

Exchange’s National Headquarters produces an annual Child Abuse Prevention Month kit, which includes public awareness project ideas, public relations information, promotional materials, and community involvement suggestions.

In 2008, Prevent Child Abuse America introduced the pinwheel as the new national symbol for child abuse prevention.

What research showed, and what experiences since then have borne out, is that people respond to the pinwheel. By its very nature, the pinwheel connotes whimsy and childlike notions. In essence, it has come to serve as the physical embodiment, or reminder, of the great childhoods we want for all children.

The Pinwheels for Prevention® campaign provides a unique opportunity for everyone, individuals and organizations alike, to take action by learning more about prevention, supporting child and family friendly policies and services, and volunteering at the local, state, and national levels. The Pinwheels for Prevention® campaign has grown by leaps and bounds with diverse organizations throughout the country planting “pinwheel gardens” each April to build awareness for child abuse prevention.

Many other organizations celebrate National Child Abuse Prevention month in their own way. See page 2 for the Pledge to Prevent™ and Five Days of Action campaigns.
**Update on Pledge to Prevent™**

In addition to the other amazing activities and resources we’re all promoting in April, we wanted to make you aware of how the Pledge to Prevent™ social media campaign is moving forward. Here is a list of official “Pledge Partners” to date:

- World Childhood Foundation
- Defend Innocence
- National Council for Youth Sports
- Prevent Child Abuse Vermont
- Stop it Now!
- CHILD USA
- Enough Abuse/MassKids

Each of these collaborating organizations are now listed with logos/links on the bottom of the Pledge to Prevent™ homepage. (To check it out, visit [www.pledgetoprevent.org](http://www.pledgetoprevent.org).) To join this voluntary collaboration of Coalition members committed to engaging citizens everywhere to take specific actions to prevent child sexual abuse, all you need to do is:

1.) Promote the Pledge to Prevent™ with your members and networks through newsletters, special alerts, Facebook and/or Twitter (prepared messages available for posting), and

2.) Provide feedback, if you choose, on current Pledge resources, and suggest others that we can vet and consider including.

A recorded webinar for members interested in learning more about Pledge to Prevent™ will be available on the Coalition’s website in the next few weeks at [www.preventtogether.org](http://www.preventtogether.org).

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**Five Days of Action, April 22-26**

Five Days of Action is an awareness building campaign about child sexual abuse prevention, led by the YMCA Guardians for Child Protection, a group of Y CEOS committed to activating the power of the Y Movement – and other youth serving organizations – to engage communities, improve internal operations and advance policy and environmental change to protect children from sexual abuse. Throughout the week YMCAs and other youth serving organizations all across the country come together to spread prevention messages on social media, host events to train parents and community volunteers, and educate the community about keeping kids safe from sexual abuse. Last year 376 organizations from 42 states came together to raise awareness and inspire adults to take action to protect children from sexual abuse. This year, let’s make it bigger and better! [Register here.](http://www.preventtogether.org)

Five Days of Action is an initiative of the YMCA Guardians for Child Protection, with support from:

[![YMCA Guardians](image1.png)](image1.png) [![Darkness to Light](image2.png)](image2.png) [![The Redwoods Group Foundation](image3.png)](image3.png) [![Praesidium](image4.png)](image4.png)

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National Coalition to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation

[www.preventtogether.org](http://www.preventtogether.org) | email: preventtogether@gmail.com
Serve on a Prevention Coalition Committee

Serving on a committee is an excellent way to make sure your voice is heard. Committees also provide a forum for members to interact and collaborate. The Coalition has four committees and several other opportunities for active participation. Committees typically have phone meetings 4-6 times a year.

Let us know the committee you would like to serve on by emailing preventtogether@gmail.com or catherinetownsend@yahoo.com.

Accountability and Responsibility in the Era of #MeToo

Check out the article by Cordelia Anderson and Joan Tabachnick in the Spring 2019 ATSA Forum (Volume XXXI, Issue 2). To see the whole article visit http://newsmanger.commpartners.com/atsa/issues/2019-03-13/2.html. Here’s an excerpt.

…The response that #MeToo requests is that each individual who comes forward is met with a simple, “I believe you.” Millions of women and men are stepping forward to say #MeToo and that has never happened before. The prevailing response is that the victims are believed and many of those who are accused are resigning from their positions, being asked to leave their jobs, and losing much of their credibility while the investigation goes on. This shift is seismic and reflects how far we have come from the pervasive silence that began to be shattered in large and small ways by survivors of sexual abuse.

Recognizing that this may be a controversial statement, we are suggesting that saying “I believe you” is an important first step, but it is not enough. “I believe you” is essential for the person who has been harmed. But we as a society and as ATSA members can push for more.

The question for this Forum is what can ATSA contribute to this conversation? If society’s only response to #MeToo is “I believe you”, the movement may slowly die because there won’t be an adequate shift in those who cause the harm. In this context, the #MeToo movement could have a bigger impact over time if ATSA members challenge ourselves to add our voice, our knowledge and our resources to the conversation….

PCAA National Conference

The 2019 Prevent Child Abuse America National Conference: Moving Upstream, will take place on Monday, September 16 through Wednesday, September 18, 2019 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Check-out the conference website at: www.pcaaconference.com. Early-Bird registration is offered to the first 175 registrants…don’t delay!
IGNITE 2019 Call for Presenters

The Darkness to Light Ignite 2019 National Prevention Conference call for presenters is now open. Ignite is being held in Boston, MA October 8 - 9, 2019.

Please complete the presenter application by May 1st. If there are any questions regarding your submission, Darkness to Light will reach out via email.

Chosen presenters will be notified by May 31st. If there are any questions regarding the application process please contact Darkness to Light at FacilitatorSupport@D2L.org.

Save the Date for the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (ATSA) conference in Atlanta, GA, November 6-9, 2019!

Partnering to Stop Child Abuse, Neglect and Related Trauma

For National Child Abuse Prevention Month 2019, CDC Injury Center’s Division of Violence Prevention (DVP) will sponsor a Facebook Q&A on the CDC VetoViolence Facebook page. This Q&A will provide and discuss tactics that state and local public health organizations can use to partner with groups across sectors to stop child abuse, neglect, and related trauma before they start. The target audience will be public health practitioners and violence prevention professionals on Facebook.

The Q&A’s participants will include DVP Essentials for Childhood grantees from Colorado and Kansas, and will occur from 12-1pm EST on April 16th. RSVP here and tune in with us for the event!
Become a Trainer in the Healthy Relationships Project

Sponsored by Prevent Child Abuse Vermont. May 1 & 2, 2019 in Montpelier, Vermont. Attendees will learn how to implement all aspects of Care for Kids®, We Care Elementary®, and SAFE-T (Sexual Abuse Free Environment for Teens™) with adults in schools through faculty and staff trainings, parents’ and caregivers’ meetings/events, and students through in-classroom instruction. To register contact Beth Hoffman, bhoffman@pcavt.org

Our Favorite Tweet

#enddemand “Sex Sells,” but “following trends” & “pushing the edge” to increase profits has a limit! It may be just the way it is; but it’s not the way it should be. Children’s health and identity are not for sale! http://cordeliaanderson.com/ #preventcsa

APSAC Colloquium

APSAC ’s 26th Colloquium to be held in Salt Lake City, Utah from June 18-22, 2019. The Colloquium will bring high-quality learning opportunities to child maltreatment researchers and practitioners across experience levels and professions. The Colloquium will offer eight pre-conference advanced training institutes and over 150 advanced training workshops, research sessions, micro sessions, information/discussion roundtables and research posters addressing all aspects of child maltreatment.

Sessions will be designed for professionals in mental health, social work, medicine and nursing, law, education, law enforcement, prevention, research, advocacy, child protective service, and allied fields. For more information about the 2019 Colloquium, contact Jim Campbell.
Prevention Coalition Focuses Social Media on Ending Demand

In April, the Prevention Coalition is focusing its social media on Pillar Four: Ending the Demand for Children as Sexual Commodities. “End the Demand” is a wide-ranging subject that includes everything from addressing underage prostitution to changing societal norms defined by advertising and other cultural factors.

Prevention Coalition member, Cordelia Anderson, MA, is the primary content provider for the “End the Demand” campaign. Cordelia is an expert in this area, and offers programs on the subject through her consulting firm, Sensibilities, Inc. Also providing content is Prevention Coalition member, the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (ATSA). Their perspective and knowledge in preventing re-offending among sexual abusers is invaluable. Thank you to these sponsors!

If you don’t follow the Prevention Coalition on Twitter (@PreventTogether), be sure to start today. Please also take the time to like and retweet the great content our members have provided. Check out all of the Coalition’s tweets and blogs at www.preventtogether.org and our Linked In site at www.linkedin.com

Fraley and Aronowitz Publish Article on Trafficking

Prevention Coalition members, Hannah Fraley and Teri Aronowitz just published a research study with school nurses and survivors that brings the voices of survivors of trafficking to the forefront in understanding how youth trafficking presents in schools.


Fraley                              Aronowitz

Prevention Coalition Dues

It’s time to pay your Coalition dues for 2019! A 2019 dues invoice is attached to this document. Please note that checks should be made out to the World Childhood Foundation but should be mailed to the Prevention Coalition (NCPCSAE) at P.O. Box 1354, Summerville, SC 29483. If you wish to pay your dues by credit card, please contact Catherine Townsend at catherinetownsend@yahoo.com for instructions. Deadline for submittal is April 30.
McCreary and Patrick Publish Blog

Check out this ATSA prevention committee blog by Rene McCreary and Prevention Coalition member, Julie Patrick, "Supporting foster parents for positive outcomes for youth with sexual behavior problems" [https://sajrt.blogspot.com/2019/02/supporting-foster-parents-for-positive.html](https://sajrt.blogspot.com/2019/02/supporting-foster-parents-for-positive.html). In 2017, the Metropolitan Organization to Counter Sexual Assault (MOCSA) collaborated with RALIANCE via an impact grant to provide therapy for youth with problematic sexual behaviors (YPSB). Despite research showing this at-risk population benefits from counseling ([Amand, Bard & Silovsky, 2008](http://www.raliance.org/press_post/raliance-awards-over-450000-in-grants-to-end-sexual-violence/)), far too often families, caregivers, and service providers lack information and access to help – this includes foster families.

RALIANCE Makes Impact Grants

RALIANCE recently announced the recipients of 10 impact grants totaling $470,000 that will fund novel projects across the U.S. to prevent sexual assault. This is the fourth round of an ongoing grant program that seeks to advance promising practices or policies that improve the response to victims, reduce the likelihood of perpetration of sexual violence, or strengthen communities’ capacity to create safe environments. [http://www.raliance.org/press_post/raliance-awards-over-450000-in-grants-to-end-sexual-violence/](http://www.raliance.org/press_post/raliance-awards-over-450000-in-grants-to-end-sexual-violence/)

April/May/June Events


April 22—26: Five Days of Action: YMCA Guardians for Child Protection Register here.

May 1-2: Become a Trained Trainer in PCAVT’s Healthy Relationships Program. Register with bhoffman@pcavt.org

June 12-15: Coalition to End Sexual Exploitation Global Summit, Washington, DC, events@ncose.com or (202)393-7245

June 18-22: APSAC ’s 26th Colloquium, Salt Lake City, Utah, Contact Jim Campbell.

Submit your events for inclusion in next month’s Events Calendar to drive awareness of your organization! Please email information to catherinetownsend@yahoo.com.

Communications Committee Co-Chairs: Susan Britton & Matt Hartvigsen