

March 31, 2008
GCCS 04-08
Contact: J.J. Kunkle (ext. 555)



601 Ledbetter Rd. Suite A
Xenia, OH 45385
ph 937 562 6600 fax 937 562 6650
www.greenescsb.org

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month

Greene County Children Services Kicks-off the month with "Pinwheels for Prevention"

Greene County, OH – April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. The observance aims to educate individuals and communities about how they can help prevent the abuse and neglect of children.

Greene County Children Services (GCCS) will kick off Child Abuse Prevention Month with the "Pinwheels for Prevention" campaign. Proudly partnering with Prevent Child Abuse Ohio, GCCS will be displaying 1209 pinwheels at The Greene in Beavercreek. Each pinwheel represents one report of abuse or neglect in Greene County in 2007.

Child abuse and neglect is a global problem of staggering proportions. In the United State alone more than 900,000 children suffer maltreatment each year according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. More than one-half of those children are neglected.

The different types of abuse and neglect are:

Physical abuse – the misuse or maltreatment of another person in a physical manner such as punching, kicking, or biting a child.

Sexual abuse – the rape, molestation, prostitution or incest of a child or using a child for the purpose of making sexually explicit pictures or videos.

Emotional abuse or neglect - the verbal or psychological abuse of a child including threatening, name calling, ignoring or other forms of rejecting a child, shaming unfairly, shouting, cursing, etc. "Mind games" are another form of emotional abuse.

Physical neglect – failure to provide basic needs, such as, food, medical care, clothing, and protection that a child needs for adequate growth and development.

It takes a community to protect a child. If you suspect child abuse or neglect, contact Greene County Children Services at 562-6600. Some is available 24/7 to help you. More information about recognizing and reporting abuse and neglect can be found on our website at www.greenescsb.org.

Greene County Children Services is the county agency designated by law to provide for the care, protection, and placement of abused, neglected, and dependent children in Greene County. GCCS helps provide the support many families need to offer their children safe and loving homes. We offer a spectrum of services from family assessment and support to temporary and permanent child placement through foster care, adoption, group home and independent living programs. Every day we assess reports of abuse or neglect, collaborate with other organizations that serve children in Greene County, and help families meet the needs of our community's most vulnerable children.

###

