



CAP ACTION EBLAST



Do Something! Do One Thing! One Thing Counts!

The Child Abuse Prevention Action Committee is a collaborative group involved in the planning and promotion of child abuse prevention efforts throughout Oklahoma.

Volume 1, Issue 11

"a publication of CAP ACTION and its partner agencies"

September 2013

Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting Child Abuse!

If you suspect it, REPORT it.

1-800-522-3511

Reports of child abuse and neglect can be made 24 hours a day, seven days a week by calling the above Oklahoma Child Abuse Hotline number. All calls are confidential. Learn more by visiting the Oklahoma Department of Human Services website. www.okdhs.org

WHO MUST REPORT? Oklahoma State statute requires **EVERY** person who has reason to believe a child under 18 is being abused or neglected, or is in danger of being abused or neglected, to promptly report the suspicion. Failure to report child abuse is a misdemeanor offense. A person who reports suspected abuse in "good faith" is immune from criminal and civil liability.

HOW TO REPORT? If you suspect abuse or neglect, call the Oklahoma Child Abuse Hotline.

If the child is in imminent danger, contact **911**.



BUILD A COMMUNITY THAT CARES Studies have shown that neighbors can prevent child maltreatment in a community simply by increasing their awareness and working together.

GET INVOLVED!

TEN WAYS TO SAVE A CHILD IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD CIRCLE

1. Learn the names of all the kids on your block.
2. Invite a neighbor with kids for dinner.
3. Have "safe houses" clearly marked where kids can go if they need help.
4. Hold gatherings of adults and kids throughout the year – picnics, barbecues, winter walks, pumpkin carvings, game days.
5. Create spaces in your neighborhood where adults and children can gather – benches near a basketball hoop, for example.
6. Remember, the sounds of skateboarding means kids are doing something constructive (getting exercise and not getting into trouble).
7. Put up signs: "Drive slowly! We love our kids."
8. Get the kids on your block involved in drawing up a neighborhood map and creating a phone tree network.
9. Adopt a "senior citizen" on the block and watch out for him or her. (Kids can shovel walks, rake leaves, etc.)
10. Take a walk through your neighborhood on a regular basis; admire the flowers, get to know the dogs, and acknowledge the kids.



Source: Stopping at Every Lemonade Stand, James Vollbracht

Do just one thing! Your one thing counts!

- ✓ Take a stack of Child Abuse Hotline cards wherever you go... pass them out to friends, leave them at your local library, church, childcare, school, etc. Available in English and Spanish by email request: sheriet@health.ok.gov
- ✓ All parents can be challenged while out with their child in public, especially when the child is tired, hungry, confined or bored. We can lessen parents' stress by doing the following:
 - BE KIND and supportive.
 - CONNECT with the parent or child. *"It's not easy, is it? I remember when my kids were that age."*
 - ASSIST the parent by offering help. Examples include offering to read a book in a waiting room or providing an extra set of hands at the supermarket.

Agency Spotlight

In 1988, **Parent Promise** was founded by members of the Exchange Club service organization and opened its doors as The Exchange Club Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse of Oklahoma, Inc.

In 2001, The Exchange Club Center merged with **Prevent Child Abuse Oklahoma**, expanding its services to include public education, community awareness and parenting resources for all parents in our community. Their mission is to prevent the abuse and neglect of Oklahoma's Children through free educational programs and home visitation.

This year Parent Promise celebrated 25 years of service; they have made over 10,000 home visits and are dedicated to strengthening families.

For more information, call 1-800-children.

Upcoming Events

Next CAP ACTION meeting – Wed, October 16th, 10:00am
CAP Day at the Capitol – Tuesday, April 8, 2014

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EARLY CHILDHOOD
TIP SHEETS

2014 Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Action begins now! [Sign Up](#) today to join efforts!