

How You Can Prevent Child Abuse!

Take the time to CARE

Create opportunities for positive parent and child interaction by:

- *Sharing information with parents and all caregivers on child development and appropriate discipline*
- *Hosting a child or family event, such as a family fair, reading night or neighborhood party*
- *Establishing a parent, child or family support group.*
- *Providing parents with supportive parenting tips in order to strengthen their abilities.*
- *Helping to strengthen your community by getting involved with agencies that support children and families.*

Advocate for children and families through:

- *Sponsoring a child abuse prevention event, activity, and/or campaign.*
- *Finding ways to support community efforts related to child abuse prevention.*
- *Volunteering for or donating to child abuse prevention efforts.*
- *Asking elected officials to support programs and services that help children and families.*
- *Supporting legislation which addresses children's issues.*

Respond to the needs of children and families by:

- *Believing children if they tell you they've been abused and let them know it is not their fault.*
- *Teaching children ways to be safe and how to protect themselves from abuse.*
- *Offering support to a parent who is under stress though babysitting, making a meal, or maybe just listening.*
- *Knowing the warning signs of child abuse, paying attention to the care of all children and reporting suspected child abuse.*

Encourage positive growth in your community through:

- *Being a nurturing parent and seeking help when you need it. A good example is always the best example.*
- *Helping parents facilitate friendships and build strong social supports.*
- *Linking families to needed community services in a positive and respectful manner.*
- *Encouraging schools, community centers, and religious organizations to start programs to address unmet needs.*

Prevent Child Abuse Illinois

www.preventchildabuseillinois.org

