



# COUNTY OF KENOSHA

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE  
Jim Kreuser, County Executive

1010 – 56<sup>th</sup> Street, Third Floor  
Kenosha, Wisconsin 53140  
(262) 653-2600  
Fax: (262) 653-2817

March 28, 2018

News release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Jennie Tunkieicz  
262-653-2831

## **Turn the Town Blue Committee plans events for Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month**

KENOSHA – The Turn the Town Blue Committee will host a variety of events throughout April in commemoration of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month.

As part of its annual campaign, the committee asks community members to “Say Something, Do Something for Kids,” by promoting and strengthening child abuse prevention efforts in Wisconsin.

Children raised in loving and supportive environments are more likely to prosper academically and financially, becoming successful, contributing members to society, noted Erin Morey, Outreach Director for the PSN Family Resource Center, part of the Kenosha County Prevention Services Network. Preventing child abuse and neglect results in better childhoods, ultimately saving millions of dollars needed for the services to address the short- and long-term effects of abuse to children.

“Our government dollars are best spent stopping abuse before it starts, rather than responding to the unfortunate aftermath,” said Kenosha County Executive Jim Kreuser. “That’s why I wholeheartedly support the work of the Prevention Services Network and the Turn the Town Blue Committee, and I urge everyone to participate in these programs and think about what they can do to promote prevention of child abuse”

Founded in 2009 to raise awareness and provide tools for building strong families, the Turn the Town Blue Committee includes representatives of various agencies, including the PSN Family Resource Center, Community Impact Programs Inc., the Kenosha County Division of Health and the Kenosha County Division of Children and Family Services.

Other partners include the Kenosha Unified School District, Kenosha Achievement Center-Early Head Start, Kenosha Area Family and Aging Services Inc. and Lutheran Social Services-Stop Child Abuse and Neglect.

“In April we come together to participate in activities that show our commitment to children and families,” Morey said. “It does not matter how big or small your effort. Prevention is about making sure communities know and show that all children deserve great childhoods.”

Events this year include:

- April 4: Pinwheel Craft and Cookie Event at the PSN Family Resource Center in the Kenosha County Job Center, 8600 Sheridan Road, 10 a.m. to noon. Children will have the opportunity to make their own pinwheel, enjoy a cookie and juice and participate in a Strong Families Easter Egg Hunt. Contact Erin at 262-697-4628 for more information.
- April 6: Wear Blue Day. Join communities across the country and wear blue all day to show support of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month. Don't forget to take photos of your blue attire and upload to the Turn the Town Blue Committee Facebook page!
- April 10: The Stewards of Children program from 1 to 3:30 p.m. at the Job Center will increase knowledge, improve attitudes and change child-protective behaviors. This program is for any responsible adult who cares about the welfare of children. Registration is now full for this event, but contact Chelsea at 262-697-4689 for information about future trainings.
- April 17: Family Dinner and Game Night/Strong Family Award presentation at Ruffolo's Special Pizza 2, 3931 45<sup>th</sup> St., 5 to 7 p.m. Bring the whole family for dinner and games and help recognize strong families in Kenosha with the Strong Family Award! This event is free and open to the public, but registration is required. Contact Erin at 262-697-4628 to sign up. Strong Family Award nominations, due by April 9, may be made online at <https://goo.gl/forms/h0JuiYDmQ9GYs86o2>.
- April 18: Connie Reyes Award and County Executive Proclamation at the Kenosha County Job Center, 4 p.m. This award, named for a Kenosha County social worker who was murdered in 1990 in connection with her work, recognizes excellence in child abuse and neglect prevention.
- April 19: Cesar Chavez Family Dinner Night: Teaching Appropriate Boundaries to Children. Families must have a student enrolled in Head Start to attend.
- April-28: 5K Family Fun Run/Walk. Check-in starts at 8 a.m. at KTEC East, 6811 18<sup>th</sup> Ave. The run/walk starts at 9:15 a.m. in Lincoln Park. The registration fee is \$10 per individual, or \$35 for a family of four or more in the same household. Online registrations are being accepted now at <https://goo.gl/forms/sTjObA1PdGOzUTnZ2>. Call Chelsea Colwill at 262-697-4689 for more information.

For more information about the Turn the Town Blue Committee, call 262-697-4628 or search for “Turn the Town Blue Campaign” on Facebook.

###