

Youth Protection 2

Valid only for *November 17, 2020*

Attendance Confirmation

Complete and detach this page. Mail it to :
 The Office for Youth
 PO Box 12047
 Birmingham AL 35202
 Mail this form within 10 days AFTER participating
 in the session. Do not fax or e-mail.

Please use block capital letters – one letter or number per box – no punctuation

First Name

Last Name

Please read and sign this receipt:

I have received a printed copy of the Code of Conduct of the Diocese of Birmingham. I have had an opportunity to ask questions regarding the Code. I understand and accept the rules detailed in the Code of Conduct apply to me whenever I am involved in any Church or Catholic School sponsored, hosted or conducted program or event involving minors.

By signing this form I certify that I was present on-line and participated in the entire Youth Protection session identified above.

Signature _____ Date _____

You may select up to 3 parishes and/or schools to give credit for your attendance at this workshop. Look through the chart below (and continued on the back page). Find the correct parish/school and enter the codes in the boxes below:

1st Parish or School

2nd Parish or School

3rd Parish or School

Check one of the items below if appropriate

- I am a Catholic Priest
- I am a Catholic Deacon
- I am currently a Catholic Seminarian

Memo _____

Institution	City	Code
All Saints Church	Anniston	7040
Annunciation of the Lord Church	Decatur	6040
Blessed Sacrament Church	Birmingham	4080
Bruno-Montessori School	Birmingham	T33
Cathedral of St. Paul	Birmingham	1440
Chapel of the Holy Cross	Albertville	ALB
Corpus Christi Church	Oneonta	3140
Good Shepherd Church	Russellville	6070
Good Shepherd Church	Huntsville	5040
Holy Family Church	Birmingham	4180

Holy Family Church	Fayette	8180
Holy Family Church	Lanett	7280
Holy Family Cristo Rey School	Birmingham	4195
Holy Family Elementary School	Birmingham	4190
Holy Family School	Huntsville	9031
Holy Infant of Prague Church	Trussville	3240
Holy Name of Jesus Church	Sylacauga	7320
Holy Rosary Church	Birmingham	3280
Holy Rosary Convent	Birmingham	3281
Holy Spirit Church	Tuscaloosa	8240
Holy Spirit Church	Huntsville	5080

Holy Spirit Church	Winfield	8280
Holy Spirit Regional School	Huntsville	5090
Holy Spirit Regional School	Tuscaloosa	HSR
Immaculate Conception Church	Lanett	7310
John Carroll Catholic High School	Birmingham	9010
Most Merciful Jesus Church	Madison	9020
Our Lady Help of Christians	Huntsville	5220
Our Lady of Fatima Church	Birmingham	1252
Our Lady of Fatima Convent	Birmingham	9804
Our Lady of Fatima School	Birmingham	1250
Our Lady of Guadalupe Church	Haleyville	8480
Our Lady of Lourdes Church	Birmingham	3380
Our Lady of Lourdes Kindergarten	Birmingham	3385
Our Lady of Lourdes Church	Greensboro	T20
Our Lady of Sorrows Children's Learning	Birmingham	1285
Our Lady of Sorrows Church	Birmingham	1295
Our Lady of Sorrows School	Birmingham	1290
Our Lady of the Lake Church	Cropwell	7640
Our Lady of the Shoals Church	Tuscumbia	6340
Our Lady of the Valley Church	Fort Payne	7710
Our Lady of the Valley Church	Birmingham	1340
Our Lady of the Valley Military Chapel	Redstone Arsenal	9800
Our Lady of the Valley School	Birmingham	1350
Pope John Paul II Catholic High	Huntsville	9050
Prince of Peace Church	Birmingham	1640
Prince of Peace School	Hoover	1650
Queen of the Universe Church	Birmingham	1380
Queen of the Universe Church	Huntsville	5340
Resurrection Chapel	Moulton	6455
Resurrection Church	Clanton	1580
Sacred Heart Monastery	Cullman	0488
Sacred Heart of Jesus Church	Anniston	7740
Sacred Heart of Jesus Church	Cullman	6440
Sacred Heart of Jesus Church	Birmingham	1955
Sacred Heart School	Ft. McClellan	7750
Sacred Heart School	Cullman	6450
St Mary's Church	Eutaw	0840
St. Aloysius Church	Bessemer	4040
St. Aloysius School	Bessemer	4050
St. Ann School	Decatur	6050
St. Barnabas Church	Birmingham	3040
St. Barnabas School	Birmingham	3050
St. Bernard Abbey	Cullman	6490
St. Bernard Abby	Cullman	OSB
St. Bernard Prep. School	Cullman	9806
St. Boniface Church	Hanceville	6060
St. Cecilia Church	Jasper	8040
St. Charles Borromeo Church	Jacksonville	7140

St. Elias Church	Birmingham	1020
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church	Gardendale	1040
St. Francis of Assisi Church	Livingston	T22
St. Francis of Assisi Church	Bessemer	4140
St. Francis of Assisi Church	Talladega	7240
St. Francis of Assisi Parish	Tuscaloosa	8140
St. Francis of Assisi School	Bessemer	4150
St. Francis Xavier Church	Birmingham	3180
St. Francis Xavier Preschool	Birmingham	T319
St. Francis Xavier School	Birmingham	3190
St. George the Great Church	Birmingham	1150
St. Henry Church	Warrior	1180
St. James Church	Gadsden	7440
St. James School	Gadsden	7451
St. Joachim Church	Piedmont	7520
St. John Bosco Church	Birmingham	3220
St. John the Apostle Church	Tuscaloosa	8150
St. John the Apostle Church	Alexander City	7540
St. John the Baptist Church	Madison	5140
St. John the Baptist School	Madison	5150
St. Joseph Church	Florence	6240
St. Joseph Church	Birmingham	4240
St. Joseph Church	Huntsville	5180
St. Joseph Regional School	Florence	6250
St. Jude Church	Scottsboro	5240
St. Jude Church	Sylacauga	7580
St. Leo Church	Demopolis	8380
St. Luke Hwang	Birmingham	0890
St. Mark Church	Ashland	7770
St. Mark the Evangelist Church	Birmingham	1490
St. Mary Church	Fairfield	4340
St. Mary Church	Eutaw	T13
St. Mary of the Visitation Church	Huntsville	5280
St. Mary School	Fairfield	4350
St. Michael Church	Florence	6280
St. Patrick Catholic Church	Adamsville	4380
St. Paul Church	Athens	6380
St. Peter Child Development Center	Birmingham	1481
St. Peter the Apostle Church	Birmingham	1480
St. Robert Church	Reform	8440
St. Rose of Lima Academy	Birmingham	9809
St. Stanislaus Church	Birmingham	4440
St. Stephen Church	Birmingham	1680
St. Theresa Church	Leeds	3440
St. Thomas the Apostle Church	Montevallo	1740
St. William Church	Guntersville	5380

Diocese of Birmingham Child and Youth Protection Policy

This document governs all those who have contact with minors. Included is any program, service or ministry conducted, hosted or sponsored by a Catholic institution within the Diocese of Birmingham. “Minors” is defined as **any person under the age of 18**.

“School” refers to any institution under the supervision of the Catholic Schools Office of the Diocese of Birmingham.

Code of Conduct

Clergy, religious, employees and volunteers must, at all times, be aware of the responsibilities that accompany their service to young people and their families. They must also know that God’s goodness and grace support them in their faithful service.

Responsibility for adherence to this policy rests with each individual. Anyone who fails to comply is subject to remedial action. Appropriate action may take a variety of forms, from verbal reproach to removal from service. Specific action is dependent on the nature and circumstances of the offense and the extent of harm.

General Principles

The following fundamental principles, shall apply to the behavior of all those who have either regular contact with minors or have a reasonable chance of being alone with a minor:

- They will strive to exhibit the highest Christian moral standards and personal integrity in their work and personal lives; supporting the teaching, and tradition of the Catholic Church.
- They will strive to conduct themselves in a respectful manner toward all people.
- They will protect the confidentiality of all sensitive information to which they have access.
- They will not take unfair advantage of relationships made through church involvement.
- They will not physically, sexually or emotionally abuse or exploit anyone.
- They will not neglect a minor who is in their care.

The policy is not intended to address all possible situations. Rather, it is to shape the behavior of all those who serve young people in the name of the Church.

=====

Standards

Programs and institutions under the supervision of the Superintendent of Catholic Schools are subject to the policies and standard operating procedures of the Catholic Schools Office, Diocese of Birmingham.

-
1. Each minor must present a properly signed Consent and Health Form (CH-1) to participate in any event taking place away from parish/school property and any overnight or high-risk

event regardless of where it occurs. The current diocesan form must be used. Completed forms are maintained in parish/school records for at least three years after each event.

2. Each adult must give consent for and successfully pass a criminal background check.
3. Any person who desires to volunteer with minors must have been a participating member of the parish for at least 6 months before being permitted to work with minors.
4. The pastor/principal (or designee) must arrange for a responsible and qualified adult to monitor any new employee or volunteer as he or she interacts with minors. The monitoring period must be at least 6 months.
5. Record Keeping: Each institution must keep current records of volunteers and staff that have completed youth protection training and criminal background screens: Records may be reviewed at any time by diocesan representatives. Institutions found to be out of compliance will have 30 days to correct deficiencies. Institutions not in compliance after 30 days are reported to the Bishop.
6. Each parish/school must ensure that adults engaged in work with minors have met current diocesan training standards. Each adult engaged in education, ministry, or service with children or youth must be approved by his or her pastor before becoming involved.

Safe Environment Rules

- 1 **Report Required:** Adults must report to proper authorities when:
 - a) An allegation against an adult is made by a minor.
 - b) There is sufficient evidence that a minor has been abused or neglected by an adult.
- 2 **Qualified Adult Leadership:** Adequate adult leadership is essential to safe and effective ministry. "Qualified adult" is a person who:
 - a) Is at least 21 years of age.
 - b) Has a up-to-date clearance through the diocesan criminal background check for volunteers.
 - c) Has participated in the diocesan training course, **Youth Protection 1**. Session participation must be repeated at least every 3 years.
 - d) Has received a copy of the diocesan document, **Child and Youth Protection Policy**.
 - e) Participation in **Youth Protection 2** is required for anyone who supervises a church/school facility and/or supervises other adults working with minors. Both Session 1 and 2 are conducted by personnel from the Department of Catholic Education and Lifelong Learning, Diocese of Birmingham.
- 3 **First Aid/CPR:** At least one adult or young adult (age 18 to 21) with a current first aid/CPR certificate must be present at any child or youth function.
- 4 **First Aid Kit:** An adequate first-aid kit must be present and available to all adults in leadership roles.
- 5 **AED:** If the institution has an AED (automatic electronic defibrillator) it must be accessible to adults in leadership roles.

- 6 **Crisis Planning:** Every facility used for child or youth programs must have plans for dealing with crisis situations. Examples of possible situations: violent weather, serious personal injury or illness, fire, explosion, hostage, etc.

- 7 **Minimum supervisory requirements:**
 - a) **Classroom:** It is always preferable to maintain at least the adult to minor ratios described in item 7b (below). However, when it is not possible and the event/class is located in a classroom setting, the following are *absolute* minimums:
 - i) Clear visibility from common areas into all spaces occupied by minors. This is usually achieved by glass panels or open doors.
 - ii) A minimum of 1 qualified adult in every instructional space.
 - iii) In addition to adults in instructional spaces, qualified adult supervisors who are in charge of the building must be present and visible in the building with immediate access to any space occupied by minors.
 - (1) The building supervisor must be accessible to any minor, adult or visitor. Building supervisors must roam hallways and other common areas, checking each space accessible to minors or adults. Each space must be checked at least once every 45 minutes.
 - b) **Two-Deep Leadership:** A minimum of 2 qualified adults must be present. If both male and female minors are present, male and female adult supervision is required. The following ratios are used to calculate the **total number** of adult supervisors required (there must always be at least 2):
 - i) Ages 5 and under: One supervisor for every **five** minors. Two qualified adults are required. When additional supervisors are needed they may be drawn from trained young adults (ages 18-20).
 - ii) Ages 6-9: One supervisor for every **seven** minors. Two qualified adults are required. When additional supervisors are needed they may be drawn from trained young adults (ages 18-20).
 - iii) Ages 10-14: One qualified adult for every **eight** minors.
 - iv) Ages 15-18: One qualified adult for every **ten** minors.
 - v) Multi-age Groups: Use the ratio indicated above for the youngest participant.
 - c) **Minors as Aides:** Individuals under the age of 21 may not be used in the place of qualified adults. However, in many instances it can be helpful to have underage helpers.
 - i) In the interest of protecting adults from accusations and to protect minors from potential maltreatment, helpers under the age 18 must always have a peer-partner if there is a reasonable chance of being alone with an adult or child younger than the helper.
 - ii) To be qualified as an aide, helper or peer-minister, young people under the age of 21 must attend the appropriate training session as provided by the Department of Catholic Education and Lifelong Learning, Diocese of Birmingham.

- 8 **Inappropriate relationships:** Anyone eighteen or over must avoid even the appearance of romantic, dating or sexual relationships with minors.

- 9 **Pornography:** The purchase, download, possession or distribution of child or adult pornography is forbidden.

- 10 **Care Exercised in Private Conferences:** When an adult and a minor engage in a personal or private conference, it must be conducted in view of at least one other responsible individual.
- 11 **Privacy:** Adults must respect the privacy of youth when they are changing clothes or bathing. Adults are to protect their own privacy in the same way.
- 12 **Separate Accommodations:** When staying in hotel-style rooms or tents, minors are not permitted to sleep in the same room or tent with an adult other than their own parent or guardian. Adults and minors may share a large sleeping space (for example, a barracks-style room) as long as the space is readily available to other adults and an adult is never alone with a minor not his or her own child.
- 13 **Preparation for Activities:** Activities must not be undertaken without proper preparation, equipment, clothing, supervision and safety measures. Parents must be fully informed of all details before being asked for consent to participate.
- 14 **Constructive Discipline:** Discipline must be constructive and always reflect Catholic values. Ridicule and humiliation are never appropriate forms of discipline.
- 15 **Hazing Prohibited:** Physical hazing and initiations are prohibited and may not be used.
- 16 **Alcohol:** The use of or presence of alcoholic beverages and/or illegal drugs is prohibited while participating in (or traveling to/from) any child or youth event. No adult shall participate while under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs.
- 17 **Proper Training:** Qualified adults must monitor and guide the behavior of youth who act as peer-leaders and ensure that safe environment policies are observed.
- 18 **Counseling:** Adults must not enter into counseling relationships for which they lack professional qualifications.
- 19 **Crisis Situations:** The pastor or his designee must be notified immediately of any crisis involving a minor.
- 20 **Transportation**
 - a) Only passenger vehicles may be used to transport minors. Minors may not be transported on the outside of any vehicle or in truck beds, even if equipped with a camper or other enclosure.
 - b) All vehicles must be good working condition with safety equipment functioning properly.
 - c) All passengers must be seated in approved seats with seat belts. Minors may be transported in a vehicle without seatbelts only if it has been approved for such use by federal or state government.
 - d) Each driver must be at least twenty-one years old and possess a valid, non-probationary driver license appropriate for the vehicle being used.
 - e) Minors must have written parental permission to drive to any event or program. Minors may not drive to events away from parish/school property with passengers other than siblings in the vehicle.
 - f) Each vehicle transporting minors must have current liability insurance to the following minimum limits: \$100,000 per person/\$300,000 per occurrence.

- g) An up-to-date diocesan Driver Information Form (DI-2) must be on file at the parish/school for each driver. The pastor or his designee must approve all drivers.
- 21 **Travel:** (more than 150 miles) – Requires completion and approval of the form “Diocesan Permit to Travel.” Form must be submitted for approval to the Department for Catholic Education and Lifelong Formation, Diocese of Birmingham. Allow at least 14 days for review by the department. Permission must be secured **before** travel takes place.
- 22 **High Risk Activities:** Any event or activity where there is potential for loss of life or serious injury must comply with the current diocesan rules in the document “Guide to Safe Youth Activities” (Diocese of Birmingham). *Examples* of activities in the “high risk” category: Rafting, Canoeing, Swimming, Climbing, Rappelling, Sailing, Deep Water Fishing and Para-sailing, Beach trips, Skiing (snow or water).



Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect

Despite the statistics, child abuse and neglect are preventable. State and local governments, community organizations, and private citizens take action every day to protect children. You can help, too.

Research shows that parents and caregivers who have support—from family, friends, neighbors, and their communities—are more likely to provide safe and healthy homes for their children. When parents lack this support or feel isolated, they may be more likely to make poor decisions that can lead to neglect or abuse.

Increasingly, concerned citizens and organizations are realizing that the best way to prevent child maltreatment is to help parents develop the skills and identify the resources they need to understand and meet their children's emotional, physical, and developmental needs and protect their children from harm.

This factsheet provides information on how communities, community leaders, and individual citizens can strengthen families, protect children, and prevent child abuse and neglect.

WHAT'S INSIDE

Protective factors

Community-based primary prevention programs and services

How you can help

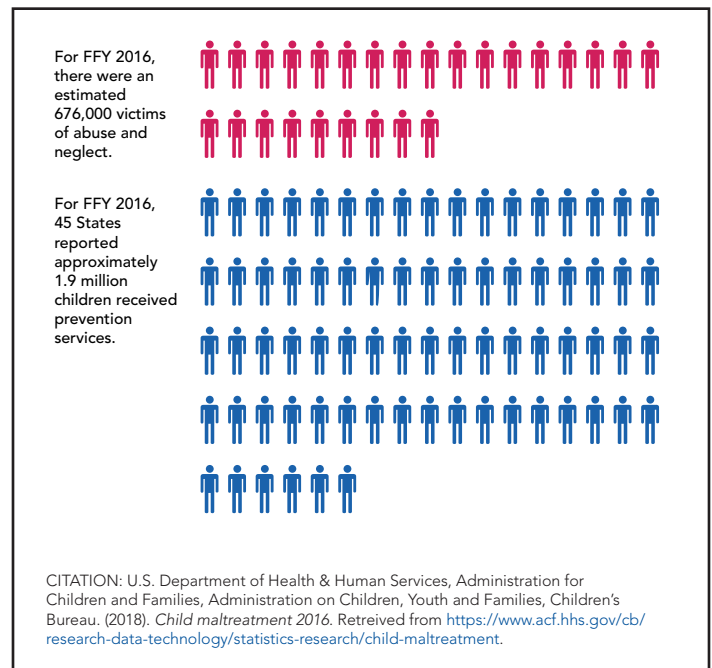
Conclusion

Protective Factors

Protective factors are assets in families and communities that increase the health and well-being of children and families. Protective factors help parents who might be at greater risk of abusing or neglecting their children to use resources, supports, or coping strategies that allow them to parent effectively, even under stress. Focusing on family strengths allows parents to build resilience, develop parental skills, and gain knowledge of resources that can decrease exposure to risks.

The following six protective factors can lower the risk of child abuse and neglect:

- **Nurturing and attachment.** When parents and children feel compassion and warmth for each other, parents are better able to provide positive parenting, as well as support the healthy physical, social, and emotional development of their children. (<https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/promoting/protectfactors/nurture-attach/>)
- **Knowledge of parenting and of child and youth development.** Parents who understand developmental milestones and how children grow can provide an environment where children can live up to their potential. (<https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/promoting/protectfactors/knowledge/>)
- **Parental resilience.** Parents who are emotionally resilient have a positive attitude, are creative problem solvers, effectively address challenges, and less often direct anger and frustration toward their children. (<https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/promoting/protectfactors/resilience/>)
- **Social connections.** Trusted and caring family friends provide emotional support to parents by offering them encouragement and assistance as they face the daily challenges of raising a family. (<https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/promoting/protectfactors/social-connect/>)
- **Concrete supports for parents.** Parents who can provide basic resources, such as food, clothing, housing, transportation, and access to essential services like child care and physical and mental health care, are better able to ensure the health and well-being of their children. (<https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/promoting/protectfactors/concrete-supports/>)
- **Social and emotional competence of children.** Parents who instill in their children the ability to positively interact with others, control their behaviors, and communicate their feelings are more likely to raise children who have positive relationships with family, friends, and peers. Children without these skills may be at greater risk for abuse. (<https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/promoting/protectfactors/competence/>)



The *Prevention Resource Guide*, produced as part of the Children’s Bureau’s National Child Abuse Prevention Month efforts, supports service providers in their work with parents, caregivers, and children to strengthen families and prevent child abuse and neglect. While this resource is aimed at child welfare professionals, service providers, and community partners, its helpful tip sheets for parents and caregivers address a number of parenting issues. The guide and tip sheets are available on Child Welfare Information Gateway’s website at <https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/preventionmonth/resources/resource-guide>.

For more about protective factors, visit Information Gateway’s Protective Factors Framework webpage at <https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/promoting/protectfactors/protective-factors>.

Community-Based Primary Prevention Programs and Services

To effectively stop child abuse and neglect before it occurs, communities need to be engaged in efforts to address family needs, and families need to be able to access supports and resources where they live, work, and worship—leveraging relationships already in place. The following are examples of community-based primary prevention programs, including two Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) programs funded by the Children’s Bureau—Bring Up Nebraska and Hope Center for Children—that focus on strengthening families. (More information on CBCAP is included in the National Prevention Efforts section of this factsheet.)

Bring Up Nebraska: Connects diverse individuals and organizations and State and local strategies to enhance collaboration to help communities coordinate resources to improve child and family well-being. (<http://www.bringupnebraska.org/>)

Hope Center for Children: Provides a holistic continuum of care to meet the immediate and long-term needs of children and families through individualized support and empowerment. (<http://www.hopefcf.org/about.php>)

Live Well San Diego: Brings together individuals, community organizations, and government to improve the health of families and cultivate opportunities for communities to grow. (<http://www.livewellsd.org/>)

Harlem Children’s Zone: Provides families in the community with support and services in a safe place where they can learn, play, and become more stable. (<https://hcz.org/>)

Center for Family Life: Partners with community-based family organizations to provide access to resources and opportunities that strengthen families. (<http://sco.org/programs/center-for-family-life/about/>)

National Prevention Efforts

Through its CBCAP grants, the Children’s Bureau funds 50 State lead agencies (SLAs); Washington, DC; Puerto Rico; and three set-aside Tribal and migrant organizations. The 50 SLAs; Washington, DC; and Puerto Rico use a majority of their grant funds to support community organizations in the provision of services to families and communities. You can learn more about CBCAP, including its funding and approach to prevention, at <https://friendsnrc.org/prevention>.

The FRIENDS National Center for CBCAP is a service of the Children’s Bureau that provides training and technical assistance to SLAs and set-aside grantees. Prevention resources developed by FRIENDS are available through its website. FRIENDS also has an Online Learning Center that offers free trainings available to anyone, with courses ranging from CBCAP 101 to Protective Factors and Implementation Science. To take a course (free registration required), visit the FRIENDS Online Learning Center at <https://friendsnrcelearning.remote-learner.net/>.

State children’s trust and prevention funds distribute more than \$100 million in funding each year to support evidence-based and innovative statewide and community-based prevention strategies. You can find your local children’s trust and prevention fund on the website of the National Alliance of Children’s Trust and Prevention Funds (the Alliance) at <https://ctfalliance.org/>. The Alliance

supports these State prevention strategies with training, technical assistance, and resources, most of which are available on the Alliance website.

Prevent Child Abuse America's 50 chapters nationwide sponsor a number of evidence-based, State-specific programs designed to prevent child maltreatment. Community members and individuals can make a difference through mentoring, becoming an advocate, and other forms of outreach. Use Prevent Child Abuse America's map to find your State's chapter and website at <http://preventchildabuse.org/get-involved>.

Stop It Now! is a national organization focused on preventing sexual abuse that offers information, support, and resources for prevention. Some of its materials aimed at parents and community members include tip sheets on prevention and warning signs of abuse. The Help and Guidance section offers resources on how to speak up about your concerns and take the next steps. Learn more at <http://www.stopitnow.org/help-guidance>.

Parent Leadership and Engagement

Prevention is most effective when parents are engaged in all aspects of programs, services, implementation, and evaluation. If parents feel isolated, they may make poor decisions that can lead to abuse or neglect. When parents and caregivers are supported by families, friends, neighbors, and communities, they are less likely to experience stress from routine parenting duties and are able to focus more easily on providing safe and healthy homes for their children.

Circle of Parents® provides a friendly, supportive environment led by parents and other caregivers where anyone in a parenting role can openly discuss the successes and challenges of raising children. You can find more information about Circle of Parents® at <http://circleofparents.org>.

The FRIENDS National Center for CBCAP website offers education and support programs designed to give parents the tools they need to become more confident and build relationships with other parents. Resources are available at <https://friendsnrc.org/parent-leadership>.

How You Can Help

Parenting is one of the toughest and most important jobs. Individuals and communities play a role in helping families to raise safe, healthy, and productive children and in promoting healthy relationships.

Individual Actions

- **Learn how to recognize signs of child abuse and neglect.** The first step in helping children who have been abused or neglected is learning to recognize the signs of child abuse and neglect. For more information, see Information Gateway's factsheet, *What Is Child Abuse and Neglect? Recognizing the Signs and Symptoms*, at <https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/whatiscan>.
- **Report your concerns.** If you suspect a child is being abused or neglected, reporting your concerns may protect that child and get help for a family who needs it. For more information on reporting, visit https://www.childwelfare.gov/organizations/?CWIGFunctionsaction=rols:main.dspList&rolType=Custom&RS_ID=%205.
- **Help a family under stress.** Offer to babysit, help with chores and errands, or suggest resources in the community. Consider some simple ways to help a neighbor at <https://familyreviewguide.com/5-simple-ways-to-help-your-neighbor>. You may visit <http://www.211.org> or dial 2-1-1 to learn about community organizations and programs that support parents and families in your area.
- **Be an active community member.** Lend a hand at local schools, community- or faith-based organizations, children's hospitals, social services agencies, or other places where families and children are supported. Learn how you (and your children) can get involved at <https://kidshealth.org/en/parents/volunteer.html>.
- **Keep your neighborhood safe.** Start a Neighborhood Watch or plan a local "National Night Out" policing-awareness community event. You will get to know your neighbors while helping to keep your neighborhood and children safe. Learn how to start a neighborhood watch at <https://www.nnw.org/register-watch>.

Community Organization Actions

- **Engage communities.** Promote community engagement to show support for families in your community. Access resources on engaging communities to support children and families by visiting Information Gateway's Engaging Communities to Support Families webpage at <https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/famcentered/communities>.
- **Spark conversations with potential community partners.** Watch "Building Community, Building Hope," a film series produced by the National Child Abuse and Neglect Technical Assistance and Strategic Dissemination Center, a service of the Children's Bureau, to learn how to form partnerships to ensure the safety and well-being of children and families. Access the series, which comes with discussion toolkits and other resources, at <https://cantasd.acf.hhs.gov/bcbh>.

Healthy Relationship Resources for Individuals and Communities

Safe, stable, and nurturing relationships are paramount to healthy child development and in preventing child maltreatment. *Essentials for Childhood: Steps to Create Safe, Stable, and Nurturing Relationships*, a guide from the National Center for Injury Prevention, Division of Violence Prevention, within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, aims to help concerned individuals and communities promote these healthy relationships. The guide is available at <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/childmaltreatment/essentials.html>.

Child Welfare Information Gateway Resources

To learn more about preventing child abuse and neglect, refer to the following resources:

- Prevention Programs [webpage]: <https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/prevention-programs/>
- Parenting Resources [webpage]: <https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/promoting/parenting/>
- Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect [webpage]: <https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/>

Conclusion

True prevention of child abuse and neglect requires a full-scale, all-hands-on-deck commitment from every facet of the community. Individuals, neighborhood groups, and local organizations must work together to know the signs of abuse and neglect and raise awareness of protective factors that strengthen families and mitigate the effects of maltreatment. Everyone has a role to play, and every role is important.

Suggested Citation:

Child Welfare Information Gateway. (2018). *Preventing child abuse and neglect*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Children's Bureau.



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Children and Families
Administration on Children, Youth and Families
Children's Bureau



Behavior

Addendum to the Code of Conduct

Touch

<u>Appropriate</u>	<u>Not Appropriate</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Handshakes, knuckle bumps, high-fives, etc.b. brief, supportive or greeting <u>side</u> hugsc. arm around the shoulders	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. back rubs, arm tickles, massages, etc.b. touching of private parts (no exceptions!)c. touching a young person in anger, disgust, or frustrationd. full contact frontal hugse. lap sittingf. kissingg. wrestling or tickling

Talk

<u>Appropriate</u>	<u>Not Appropriate</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. verbal praise for achievement or behaviorb. verbal encouragementc. appropriate instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. compliments, comments, or questions relating to physique or body developmentb. sexual jokes, innuendoes, or bathroom humorc. swearing or vulgar languaged. verbal harassment or abusee. individual secrets or special giftsf. sexual coaching or conversation

Territory

<u>Appropriate</u>	<u>Not Appropriate</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. public one-on-one interaction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. sitting or lying on a bed with a minorb. private one-on-one interactions