



April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month and Denver Children's Advocacy Center is joining other organizations across the state to raise awareness and support families. We all play a part in promoting children's emotional well-being as well as strengthening families. These efforts will reduce the risk of child abuse and neglect.

We have several activities planned (see calendar) and invite you to participate in as many as you can starting with planting pinwheels on the Capitol lawn, Friday, April 1 at 11:00 a.m. Pinwheels will be provided and we would like to have you and your family attend. Please RSVP to our general mail box at info@DenverCAC.org or contact us for additional information.

That same day, join us in the afternoon at 3:00 to decorate our campus with pinwheels. Wear blue and enjoy a blue cupcake after the pinwheel planting. No RSVP necessary.

On the 16th of April, Prevent Child Abuse Colorado will host a family friendly event at Red Rocks Amphitheater (time TBA). Families from across the state as well as visitors to the park will hold pinwheels and help create a "human pinwheel" on the steps of the rocks. An aerial photo will be taken and used both nationally and locally to raise awareness about prevention efforts happening in Colorado. This is an amazing opportunity to raise awareness and provide a fun way for families to learn more about prevention.

Watch for daily posts on DCAC's Facebook along with photos of groups on "[Wear Blue To Work](#)" Fridays as well as weekly tours of DCAC. To register for a tour or find out how to host a "[Wear Blue Friday](#)", contact Kris Walker at kwalker@denvercac.org. For more Child Abuse Prevention Month activities, go to our web site at www.DenverCAC.org.

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Wish List

Thank you to all the generous folks who contributed to our request for snacks for our children. We received several generous gifts.

This month we are seeking:

- A lightweight vacuum for our second and third floors
- Cleaning supplies (disinfecting wipes, swiffer wet, Windex, paper towels, etc)
- Bottled water (8 oz and 4 oz)

We could also use a finish carpenter to do a couple of small repair jobs to our beautiful older buildings. To find out more about donating time, talent, or treasure - contact Shay Pischke at 303 825-3850 or Shay@DenverCAC.org.



Thank you to those who helped us get to our first goal of selling 100 tickets-but we have a lot more to go to reach our goal of \$5,000 to replenish our therapy supplies. It is easy and you might win a new car.You can help us raise \$5,000 by purchasing one or more tickets **today**.

Here is how it works:

- Select Denver Children's Advocacy Center when you purchase your tickets at www.amillionmatters.com
- The person who holds the winning ticket will take home a 2016 Ford Escape, courtesy of Sill-TerHar Motors (see photo)
- DCAC gets to keep 100% of ticket sales minus credit card processing fees

Tickets are \$10 each! If everyone who participates buys two tickets, we will only need to sell 250. The more tickets we sell, the more likely it is that one of our supporters will win the 2016 Ford Escape. We can't wait to see one of you drive away in a new car. DCAC and Amp the Cause know that working together is the best way to see results in our community. Please join us and buy your tickets today - [for a chance to win a 2016 Ford Escape!](#)

For questions contact Shay Pischke or Kris Walker at 303 825-3850.



Upcoming Training Opportunities

Invisible Trauma: the Trauma We Carry with Us Every Day

What?

Working and/or living with traumatized children is challenging, rewarding, and replete with difficulties.

Traumatized Children's Emotions

Traumatized children have often internalized a "**negative mental representation**" of themselves, of caretakers, and of the world and then reenact this negative blueprint with their families, foster families, or foster-adoptive families. This may then elicit strong reactions from these caregivers.

Intense transference and counter-transference responses are likely to be displayed between the traumatized child and the caregivers. Understanding these responses is paramount to successfully maintain the placement of difficult children.

Interventions That Work

This workshop describes and addresses the most commonly observed transference and counter-transference issues in working and/or living with traumatized children. Multiple interventions are also described.

Date: Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Location: Mile High United Way, 711

Park Avenue West 80205

Cost: \$65.00



To register, please click the link below.

[**Register NOW!**](#)

Staff Corner

In an effort to help you learn more about Denver Children's Advocacy Center and the work we do we will be featuring a staff position each month.



Meet Child Therapist and Assistant Director of Prevention Programs Cathy Hay

Cathy is a master's level marriage and family therapist with extensive experience in working with child and adolescent survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence. She also specializes in working with children who have special needs or severe emotional disturbances, as well as with youth caught up in the criminal justice system.

Q: What is the role of a Child & Family therapist

A: As a Child and Family Therapist, I provide therapeutic services for children ages 1 to 17 who have been victims of sexual abuse, domestic violence, neglect, or who have witnessed a homicide and/or other types of trauma. In my role as therapist, I adapt therapeutic interventions to meet the developmental and psychological needs of each child to produce a lasting change in mental health functioning.

Q: What is the role of the Assistant Director of the Prevention Program?

A: As a Child and Family Therapist, I provide therapeutic services for children ages 1 to 17 who have been victims of sexual abuse, domestic violence, neglect, or who have witnessed a homicide and/or other types of trauma. In my role as therapist, I adapt therapeutic interventions to meet the developmental and psychological needs of each child to produce a lasting change in mental health functioning.

Q: What attracted you to this role?

A: I have more than ten years' experience working in the field of victims' services in the capacities of case manager, educator, advocate, and therapist. As a therapist at DCAC, I have had the opportunity to use all my skills and knowledge to serve families as the Prevention Program Coordinator, I have the opportunity to provide prevention services to hundreds of children. We teach safety skills to children to help them in high-risk situations. The balance of providing both prevention and intervention (through therapy) is very fulfilling.

Q: What do you find most rewarding?

A: The most rewarding aspects of working at DCAC are the children and families we see each day. Many of these children have experienced horrific trauma, and yet, display resilience. I also enjoy the challenge of identifying the needs of my clients and their families, and then designing specific strategies to meet those specific needs.

It is also rewarding to work with children in Denver Public Schools. Many administrators and teachers have recognized the need for this type of education and prevention program that will help their students. By teaching children these specific safety skills, we are reducing their risk for child abuse.

Q: What do you find most challenging?

A: The most challenging aspects of my role as a therapist is hearing each child's trauma first hand, and then seeing the devastating effects on the child and their family. Many of the families we work with are not equipped to handle this trauma and it's after-effects. At DCAC, we provide case management and crisis services to our clients and their families to help them adapt to life after the traumatic event.

Are You a Runner? Your Efforts Can Help Support DCAC!

If you are a runner or fast walker join us on May 14 or 15th to participate in the Colfax Marathon. We are partnering with Kiewit to help raise funds for DCAC. This fun event features 50 acts on two courses, Dragon Boats, Montbello Drum Line, and Colfax Mannequins. After the run enjoy Jim 'N Nick's Bar-B- Q after party and a Michelob Beer Garden.

It is easy to register just go to www.runcolfax.org and be sure to designate Denver Children's Advocacy Center as your charity partner. Look forward to seeing you on the course.



For additional information contact:

Kris Walker, Development Director at 303-825-3850

We have just opened our beautiful three house campus to weekly tours and would like to invite you to join us for an hour of information and observation at the Denver Children's Advocacy Center. Because we want to keep the groups small so that you have the full benefit of the tour, we ask that you make a reservation through our office number 303-825-3850.



Tours will be the first and third Tuesday from 12 noon to-1 and the second and fourth Thursday from 5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. We would like to share with you our work and thank each of you for your generous support of our work.

Denver Children's Advocacy Center | 303.825.3850 | www.DenverCAC.org

See what's happening on our social sites:

