

children's safety center

Blue Sunday

April 28, 2019



People of all faiths will join together in a day of prayer to demonstrate their support for children and families who have been touched by abuse, and give thanks to those who help abused and neglected children.

*Lord, thank you for our children
For them we kneel and pray.
Help us teach them of your kindness
Of your mercy and your way.
Help us show them of your love
Your strength and safety, too.
Help us show them who you are
Help us treat them like you do.
Let us pray, educate ourselves and volunteer
For the children of our nation
Until black and blue are just colors
In their crayon box.*



They are precious in His light

Amen

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Reporting Child Abuse

To report suspected child abuse or neglect call

844.SAVE.A.CHILD



**children's
safety center**
of Washington County
Restoring Dreams

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The Story Behind the Blue Ribbon

In 1989, a Virginia grandmother, Bonnie Finney lost her grandson to child abuse. After his death, she tied a blue ribbon to the antenna of her van as a symbol to alert her community to the ultimate tragedy of child abuse. The color blue represents the bruised and battered body of her grandchild. Therefore it served as a constant reminder to fight for our children. She explained, "My grandchildren had suffered and battled so much throughout their young lives that it sickened me." This grandmother's simple idea to wear blue caught on and spread to organizations across the country.



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April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. The Children's Safety Center promotes awareness community wide through Pinwheels for Prevention. Local businesses and individuals place signs and banners along with pinwheels to raise awareness of child abuse happening in our community. For more information on all of our events and ways you can be involved, visit our website.

The Children's safety center is a nonprofit providing immediate services for victims of child abuse and non-offending family members. Established in 1997, the CSC has an estimated 9,000+ handprints lining the walls from the brave children that tell their stories of abuse.

- **child abuse treatment services**
child advocacy, forensic interviews, medical exams, mental health therapy.
- **free prevention trainings**
stewards of children community trainings, in-school empower me trainings, mandated reporter trainings
- **it does happen here**
24% increase in the number of children seen in 2018 (838) vs 2017 (679)
89% of those were sexual abuse allegations
93% of offenders are someone the child knows and trusts



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