

Senator Kevin Bacon
Chairman



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Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention Month Campaign Asks Ohioans to *Pause for a Child*

COLUMBUS, Ohio – On April 1, Governor Kasich will declare April 2011 Ohio Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month and urge Ohioans to make a difference in protecting children. In observance, the Ohio Children's Trust Fund encourages all individuals and organizations to *Pause for a Child* and take an active role in making their communities a better place for families and children.

“Ohio's children are the future leaders of our state, and they need us to ensure their health and well-being to help them reach their full potential,” said Senator Kevin Bacon (R- Minerva Park), who serves as chairman of the Ohio Children's Trust Fund. “This month, I encourage all Ohioans to find a way to make a difference in the lives of the children around them and help stop child abuse and neglect throughout Ohio.”

The 2011 statewide observance of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month will kick off at 11 a.m. on Thursday, March 31, with an event at the Columbus Metropolitan Library Main Branch, 96 S. Grant Ave. in downtown Columbus. The event will include remarks by Justice Yvette McGee Brown of the Supreme Court of Ohio, a musical performance by the Dana Elementary School Fifth Grade Choir and a special appearance by the Berenstain Bears. The event will also include the planting of pinwheels – the national symbol of child abuse prevention.

The Ohio Children's Trust Fund asks you to help make a difference in the lives of Ohio's most precious resource – our children. Whether it is volunteering your time for programs that support children, supporting child advocacy groups or advocating for other efforts designed to protect children in Ohio and across the country, everyone can take a lead in making a difference.

The Ohio Children's Trust Fund is the state's sole public funding source dedicated to preventing abuse and neglect. Housed within the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, the Ohio Children's Trust Fund works with its 88 county partners to serve all Ohio communities.

For more information about child abuse prevention programs and activities going on in your community during the month of April and throughout the year, visit www.jfs.ohio.gov/octf.