



Ohio Children's Trust Fund
Ohio's Prevent Child Abuse America Chapter

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Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month Campaign Asks Ohioans to *Take the Pledge*
#InTheNext30Minutes

COLUMBUS, Ohio – Every 30 minutes in Ohio, a child is abused or neglected. Today, the Ohio Children's Trust Fund kicked off April's Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month with a new awareness campaign. #InTheNext30Minutes encourages all individuals and organizations to take the pledge to do their part to prevent child abuse and neglect through simple acts of kindness #InTheNext30Minutes. This is an invitation to all Ohioans to play a role in making their communities a better place for families and children.

"April is a time to recognize the important role that communities play in protecting children," said Kristen Rost, executive director of the Ohio Children's Trust Fund. "April also represents a call to action. This month, I encourage all Ohioans to find a way to make a difference in the lives of the children and families around them through simple acts of kindness that take 30 minutes or less."

The Ohio Children's Trust Fund kicked off the observance today at the Ohio Statehouse Atrium. The event featured remarks by state legislators, child abuse and child neglect advocates, and other key stakeholders, as well as the unveiling of the 2017 April prevention month campaign materials.

"Child abuse prevention requires active involvement from everyone," said Chip Spinning, executive director of Franklin County Children Services. "We know that a simple act of kindness can have a positive impact on the life of a child or parent in need of support. That is why it is incumbent upon all of us to take the pledge #InTheNext30Minutes."

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's volunteering your time for programs that support children, providing support to a friend, family member or neighbor in need, or advocating for other efforts designed to protect children in Ohio and across the country, everyone can take a lead in making a difference in 30 minutes or less.

"Preventing child abuse and neglect is everyone's responsibility," said Karen Days, president of The Center for Family Safety and Healing. "The #InTheNext30Minutes calls upon each of us to undertake small yet meaningful acts of compassion that will support children and promote safe and stable families."

For more information about child abuse and neglect prevention programs and activities in your community, visit next30.org. To report suspected child abuse or neglect in Ohio, call 1-855-O-H-CHILD (855-642-4453). The number is toll-free, and reports can be made anonymously.

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