



**APRIL IS CHILD ABUSE
PREVENTION MONTH**

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**WHAT WILL YOU DO TO MAKE
A DIFFERENCE?**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH 2016

Blue Mondays---Prevention Awareness & Photo Contest--Each Monday in April

"Blue Mondays" is a nationwide activity that provides a fun way for individuals to show their commitment to keeping children safe! Each Monday in April, you are encouraged to wear something blue, decorate your office in blue, paint your face blue...you get the picture. Speaking of pictures—take an original picture of your class, friends, family, or office as they "Believe in the Blue" with you--then upload it to the Exchange Club Family Resource Center Facebook page. We'll select one group at the end of the month to receive a complete biscuit breakfast from Hardee's for up to 25 people!

Child Abuse Prevention Sundays in April

Churches are asked to select one Sunday in April to designate as "Child Abuse Prevention Sunday". On this day, we ask that congregations pray for families and children as well as the wisdom and resources to decrease abuse issues confronting our community. Call 706-290-0764 or 706-232-0703 to learn more about our community needs and to book a speaker from a local agency.

Placement of the Pinwheels and Dove Release---April 4, 2016 at 11 AM

Meet us in front of the Dempsey Building (corner of Turner-McCall and N. Broad; parking available behind building) for our annual "Placement of the Pinwheels". Each pinwheel represents one confirmed case of child abuse/neglect in 2015 for Rome/Floyd County. After the pinwheels are in place, we'll release two doves (provided by Cherry & Tony Warren) to symbolize love and peace and our commitment to keeping children in Rome/Floyd County safer in 2016. Wear blue in honor of the month, dress comfortably, and bring a screwdriver to help with pinwheel placement.

Child Abuse Prevention Presentation at Collaborative—April 7, 2016 at 1:30 PM

The Rome/Floyd Collaborative meets the first Thursday of each month at the Floyd County Board of Education Building. Each meeting features speakers and opportunities to connect and become aware of the work of local agencies. The Collaborative builds a sense of connection and teamwork as members strive towards improving the well-being of children, youth and families in Rome/Floyd. Meetings are open to the public. In April, the Collaborative will hear directly from a parent about ways that agencies & social workers can strengthen their communication and services with families.

Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Poetry Contest and Canvas Painting

Rome, Floyd County, and Darlington Schools are participating in poetry writing and canvas painting to raise awareness and voice the significance of the issue of child abuse and neglect in our community. Be on the lookout for these publications and art work displays throughout the month of April! Sponsored by Harbor House and Berry College Bonner Scholarship Program.

Exchange Club of Rome---Presentations on April 15, 2016 and April 29, 2016 at 12 PM

Come see what the Exchange Club of Rome and community partners are doing to serve families and prevent abuse. The April 15th meeting will feature a panel giving a perspective "From the Eyes of a Child." At the April 29th meeting, the Blue Monday winner will be announced. For meeting location and to reserve your spot, please RSVP to Tina Bartleson at 706-290-0764 (limited seating available).

Stewards of Children Training: April 12th and April 19th

This training program educates adults to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse and is appropriate for parents, caregivers, or anyone who interacts with children in any way. Classes offered on April 12th (5:30-8pm at Anthony Recreation Center) OR April 19th (1-3:30pm at Thornton Recreation Center). Register on the Rome/Floyd Parks & Recreation website (www.rfpra.com) or at their main office (1 Shorter Avenue). Cost: \$15 per person. Please direct questions to Gail Garland at Harbor House (706-235-5437).



To Learn More about how YOU can reduce child abuse and neglect in our community, call:

- Exchange Club Family Resource Center (706-290-0764); www.exchangedclubfrc.org
- Harbor House (706-235-5437); www.nwga-cac.org
- Rome/Floyd County Commission on Children & Youth (706-232-0703); www.floyd.gafcp.org
- Foster parent information available through:
 - Faith Coalition for Families (706-346-6419; 706-506-9608)
 - Floyd Dept. of Family & Children's Services (706-295-6004)
 - 877-210-KIDS (State Dept. of Family & Children's Services)

Child Abuse Prevention Month activities brought to you by: Coosa Valley Credit Union, Exchange Club of Rome, Exchange Club Family Resource Center, Harbor House, Bonner Scholarship Program, Rome/Floyd Commission on Children & Youth, and other agencies collaborating together through the Floyd County TASK Committee.
