



FOOTHILLS

A publication of the Foothills Child Advocacy Center

VOLUME 1 | ISSUE 5 | APRIL 2010



April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month and Foothills Child Advocacy Center is partnering with the Virginia Coalition for Child Abuse Prevention, as well as with other local agencies to spread the message that *Now is the Time: Children Can't Wait*.

Throughout the month of April, many programs and activities are planned on a national, state and local level. Please visit the Charlottesville/Albemarle Commission on Children and Families using the address of www.ccfinfo.org/newpages/special_events_html to see the schedule of events for our community.

Foothills encourages all individuals and organizations to educate themselves about this problem and to play a role in making Charlottesville/Albemarle a better place for families. By ensuring that parents have the knowledge, skills, and resources they need to care for their children, we can help prevent child abuse and neglect.

Foothills Announces Stewards of Children

Thanks to a generous grant from the Wardle Family Foundation, Foothills Child Advocacy Center is pleased to announce an important new prevention initiative: Darkness to Light's *Stewards of Children* sexual abuse prevention program.

The program educates adults to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse. The program teaches that child safety is an adult's job, not a child's responsibility. A powerful video, the core of the curriculum, includes the stories of several courageous individuals who were victims of sexual abuse as children and who have contributed a great deal of time and effort as adults toward ending the cycle of abuse. **Bill Wardle**, the Chair of his family's foundation, recently said: "This program is compelling because it is so effective in providing adults with fundamental tools to prevent child abuse. The hurt to our children from sexual abuse is irreparable. *Stewards of Children* makes it possible for all of us to stop the abuse from occurring."

During April's Child Abuse Prevention Month, Foothills will offer the Stewards of Children in three (3) separate workshops, free and open to the public. In addition, two other workshops will be held for the employees of Albemarle County. This program is ideal for training staff and volunteers who work with youth; it is also appropriate for parents, grandparents, and any adults who care about children. *Stewards of Children* is also available on request at other times at no charge.

Contact Jane Tirrell at Foothills Child Advocacy Center at jtfootills@gmail.com to sign up for a work shop or to request more information about scheduling a *Stewards of Children* at your place of work or organization.

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

Wednesday, March 31st, 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM
County Office Building (Room B)
5th Street Extended, Charlottesville, Va.

Friday, April 9th, 9:00 AM to Noon

Friday, April 30th, 9:00 AM to Noon

Children Youth and Family Services
1000 E. High Street, Charlottesville, Va.

Friday, April 23rd, 9:00 AM to Noon

Thursday, April 29th, 9:00 AM to Noon
County Office Building (Room to be announced)
For County employees

Foothills recently hired **Shannon Saunders** to serve as part-time Prevention Education Specialist to implement the *Stewards of Children* program. Shannon received her Bachelor of Science degree at James Madison University in Psychology and Family Studies in 2006 and her Master of Arts in Counseling from Eastern Mennonite University in 2008. Shannon worked as a counselor at the Center for Marriage and Family Counseling in Harrisonburg, Virginia for a year before joining the staff of Children, Youth & Family Services, Inc. where she has worked as a Child Abuse Victims Specialist since September, 2008. Shannon is an active member of the Charlottesville/Albemarle Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Team, where she works collaboratively with Foothills and other organizations that serve child abuse victims. Shannon joins Foothills Program Coordinator, **Jennifer Kline**, who has been an authorized facilitator since 2007.

Nickels for Nonprofits to Benefit Foothills CAC

During the month of May Foothills CAC will be participating in the Nickels for Nonprofits fundraiser at Whole Foods Market. For the entire month shoppers will be asked at checkout if they would like to donate a nickel to Foothills. *Stop by Whole Foods and support Foothills CAC.*

Child Abuse Prevention Month — April 2009

What is child abuse or neglect?

Under Virginia law, an abused or neglected child is any child under 18 whose parent, or any other person responsible for the care of the child, does any or all of the following:

1. Causes or threatens to cause a non-accidental physical or mental injury, including, but not limited to a child who is with his parent during the manufacture or sale of certain drugs.
2. Neglects or refuses to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter, emotional nurturing, or health care.
3. Abandons the child.
4. Fails to provide adequate supervision in relation to the child's age and level of development.
5. Commits or allows to be committed any illegal sexual act upon a child including incest, rape, fondling, indecent exposure, prostitution, or allows a child to be used in any sexually explicit visual material.
6. Knowingly leaves a child alone in the same dwelling with a person who is not related to the child by blood or marriage and who is required to register as a violent sexual offender.

Child abuse is not usually just one physical attack or just one instance of failure to meet a child's most basic needs. Usually child abuse is a pattern of behavior which takes place over a period of time. The longer child abuse continues, the more serious it becomes, and the more difficult it is to stop.

Who are the abusers?

Abusive parents can be your friends, your neighbors, or your relatives. Child maltreatment affects all economic, racial, social, ethnic, and religious groups.

What is the cost of child abuse and neglect in monetary and human terms?

The cost of child abuse and neglect in the United States is estimated at \$258 million per day, according to a study by Prevent Child Abuse America.

How can child abuse and neglect be prevented?

1. Recognize the warnings signs: parents under chronic stress, children exhibiting negative and anxious behaviors, and signs of physical abuse.
2. Encourage stressed families to seek out support services. Call the **800-CHILDREN** support line.
3. Report suspected child abuse and neglect. Call your local social services department or call the Virginia Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline at **1-800-552-7096** (*language line available*).

Virginia Fact Sheet (July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008)

Completed Reports of Maltreatment	32,471
Possible Victims of Maltreatment	50,598
Founded Reports (met legal criteria for abuse)	6,099
Children involved in completed family assessments by Child Protective Services	35,879
# of children who died as a result of child abuse	36
Who were the children in founded reports?	
7 years or younger	37%
12 years and older	76%
White	57.93%
Black	32.18%
Multiracial	4.57%
Asian	0.77%
What were the types of maltreatment? (More than one type of abuse may occur in a report)	
Physical Neglect	54.50%
Physical Abuse	26.20%
Sexual Abuse	15.10%
Medical Neglect	2.30%
Mental Abuse/Neglect	1.90%

Foothills Board of Directors and Staff

Chair: Shelly Jackson
 Vice Chair: Kim Vierbuchen
 Secretary: Martha Campbell
 Treasurer: Gretchen Ellis
 At Large: Judy Randle
 Director: Dave Chapman
 Director: Liz Ramirez-Weaver
 Director: Rob Trundle
 Director: John Walenten
 Program Coordinator: Jennifer Kline
 Prevention Education Specialist:
 Shannon Saunders
 Office Administrator: Jane Tirrell

Foothills Numbers for FY 2008/2009

NUMBER OF CASES: 125

GENDER OF CHILDREN

Female	35
Male	90

AGES OF CHILDREN

0-6	36
7-12	35
13-18	54

ALLEGED VICTIM/CLIENT RACE

Asian	1
Black	43
Hispanic	7
White	63
Other	11

ALLEGED MALTREATMENT

Neglect	7
Physical Abuse	9
Sexual Abuse	105
Other	4
Multiple	10

PERPETRATOR RELATIONSHIP TO VICTIM

Parent	32
Parent's Friend	8
Relative	18
Step-parent	3
Other known Person	42

Honor Roll of Donors — Thank You!

March 2009 to March 2010

Please accept our apologies and let us know if your name is not included and should be

VISIONARY: ABOVE \$10,000

United Way Thomas Jefferson Area Wardle Family Foundation

CHAMPION: \$3,001-\$10,000

Family & Children's Trust Fund (FACT) Anonymous
 BAMA Works through the Charlottesville Area Community Foundation (CACF)

ADVOCATE: \$1,001-\$3,000

Whitney & Anne Stone Foundation A. Robert and Sarah H. Trundle
 Better Living Foundation R. Ted and Shelia Weschler
 James Schlothauer and Gretchen Ellis

SPONSOR: \$301-\$1,000

Judy B. Randle Thomas and Kimberley L. Vierbuchen
 Jane T. and Thomas A. Tirrell, III Julia Jackson Young

SUPPORTER: \$100-\$300

Anonymous Ludwig and Beatrix Ost Kuttner
 Basil Mediterranean Bistro David H. Lerman
 Capital Concrete Corporation Connie J. and Joseph A. Masri
 Eagle Corporation Dr. Joseph W. May
 Panorama Paydirt Eugene D. and Catherine I. McGahren, II
 Petit Bebe W. Gilbert and Linda S. O'Neal
 Michael A. Caplin William and Jolene Park
 Warner Davies Chapman David M. Rowe
 George C. Logan and Cheryl Coursey Bill and Missy Shenkir
 Nancy V. Daniel Ruth L. and John Stone
 Gregory S. Gelburd and Kathleen Clark Christina Teague
 Joseph E. and Patricia P. Gibson Dr. and Mrs. Ross T. Thomas
 John Haas Elizabeth A. Twohy
 Beverley W. Hereford John Walenten
 Mr. and Mrs. Leslie L. Inman Kurt Wassenaar
 Shelly Jackson Franklin H. and Jennifer H. Winslow
 Thad M. Jones Kevin Wood
 David L. and Mary Gail Krese A. Nelson and Sandra R. Yarbrough

FRIEND: UNDER \$100

Anonymous Marsha Musser
 Anonymous Anne Porter
 Carolyn Belt John T. Sinclair
 John Dekoven Bowen III Janice Arone and John Sweeney
 Bruce and Terri Cabell Patrick Norton and Rachel Thielmann
 Betsy Cantrell Mary Ann and Donald Timberlake
 James W. and Wendy J. Craig Rosalind and James Tirrell
 Stacy Erickson Peggy and Mike Van Yahres
 Stephen and Frances Greenstein Kim and Mac Vanderploeg
 Joan Kammire Charles and Andrea Vest
 Ellen and Elliott Lerman Helen T. Whittemore

Our Mission

Foothills Child Advocacy Center

provides a coordinated system of effective response and intervention to children who have been victimized.

Our goal is to minimize trauma, promote healing, insure child safety, and hold perpetrators accountable.



FOOTHILLS CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER

Please choose to support the Foothills Child Advocacy Center

Donor Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

My gift to the Foothills Child Advocacy Center: \$ _____

My check/cash is enclosed

(Please make check payable to Foothills Child Advocacy Center).

I would like my gift to remain anonymous: _____

Donations can also be made online at our website www.foothillscac.org.

The Foothills Child Advocacy Center is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization.

All donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Please visit us at www.foothillscac.org

Site provided by Gold Spring Design (www.ColdSpringDesign.com)

- Do not tolerate child abuse.
- Educate yourself and your community about the realities of child abuse and victimization by attending Stewards of Children Prevention Program.
- Talk about child abuse. Children continue to be abused/victimized at an alarming rate and need adult voices to speak for them. For more information on how to talk to your children about child abuse call (434) 971-7233.
- Honor and respect children.
- Get involved with Foothills CAC.
- Make a donation.

Foothills Child Advocacy Center
1000 E. High Street, Suite A
Charlottesville, Virginia 22902
Phone: (434) 971-7233
www.foothillscac.org



How Can I Help?

Nonprofit Org
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 2
Charlottesville, VA