For Immediate Release [PROGRAM LOGO]

Date Contact: Name

Title

Contact information

**(PROGRAM NAME) Calls (CITY/REGION) Residents to Action for Child Abuse Prevention Month**

**(CITY, STATE) –** In honor of National Child Abuse Prevention Month, (**PROGRAM NAME)** is issuing a call to action for residents of **(STATE/CITY/COUNTY/REGION)** to stand against child abuse and take action to support children who have been abused or neglected.

At any given time, there are **(XXXX)** children in foster care in **(STATE/CITY/COUNTY/REGION)**. These children come into the child welfare system through no fault of their own. (INCLUDE SENTENCE HERE ABOUT ANY TRENDS THAT YOUR PROGRAM IS SEEING – E.G. MORE CHILDREN COMING INTO CARE OR THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC.)

“The needs of **(STATE/CITY/COUNTY/REGION)**’s children coming into care are more complicated than ever before, and life in foster care can be chaotic,” said NAME OF PROMINENT PERSON OR PROGRAM EXECUTIVE, TITLE. “Every child deserves the support of caring, consistent adult with the training to help them heal and thrive.”

Throughout the month of April, (**PROGRAM NAME)** is calling on members of the community to help our program serve more of **(STATE/CITY/COUNTY/REGION)**’s most vulnerable children. (INCLUDE SENTENCE HERE ABOUT YOUR OWN PROGRAM’S CALL(S) TO ACTION(S) THROUGHOUT THE MONTH, E.G. DONATE, VOLUNTEER, EDUCATE).

Without intervention, the odds are stacked against children in foster care. A child with a **(Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)/guardian ad litem (GAL))** volunteer, however, will leave the foster care system two-and-a-half months earlier, on average, compared to a child without a **(CASA/GAL)** volunteer. Studies show children with a **(CASA/GAL)** volunteer receive more services that are critical to their well-being than children without an advocate, and those children are more likely to achieve educational success.

“**(CASA/GAL)** volunteers are a constant for the child in a time of chaos,” said **(NAME, TITLE)**. “A child may have multiple social workers, attorneys, therapists and foster placements throughout the life of the case but only one **(CASA/GAL)** volunteer, which can make all the difference for the child’s future.”

**(PROGRAM NAME)** is a member of the National Court Appointed Special Advocate Association (National CASA), a nationwide network of programs in nearly 1,000 communities. At the heart of the movement are nearly 77,000 highly trained volunteers who advocate for the best interests of more than 250,000 of America’s children who have been abused or neglected. In **(STATE/CITY/COUNTY/REGION)**, there are **(#)** volunteer advocates fighting for the best interests of **(#)** children but **(#)** more children need the care and support of a **(CASA/GAL)** volunteer.

For more information about **(PROGRAM NAME),** to become a supporter or to volunteer, visit **(website address)** or call **(###.###.####).**

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