

Resources

Prevention Councils in Maine	To learn how to support communities, strengthen families, and local Child Abuse Prevention Month activities happening near you, reach out to a local Prevention Council, located in every county, by visiting here .
Maine Children's Trust: Partner in Prevention	Supportive Communities & Strong Families Prevent Child Abuse & Neglect. We all have a role to play. Join the Maine Children's Trust along with other statewide organizations and businesses, as a unified voice in April as a Partner in Prevention .
National Resource Messaging	Child Welfare Information Gateway/Children's Bureau Outreach Toolkit Join the Child Welfare Information Gateway Facebook Page: Join the Conversation! #ChildAbusePreventionMonth #ThrivingFamilies #CAPmonth

Education

Front Porch Project of Maine	Receive a free Front Porch Project® of Maine training . The Front Porch Project is a community-based primary prevention initiative based on the belief that everyone can – and should – become more aware of how to help protect children and support families in their own communities. It provides community members with the knowledge, skills, and encouragement they need to take an active role in preventing abuse and neglect.
Protective Factors	Receive a free Protective Factors training by contacting your local Prevention Council . Child abuse and neglect are preventable by increasing Protective Factors for caregivers, families, and communities. This evidence-based approach, developed by the Center for the Study of Social Policy, to strengthen families by increasing Protective Factors : parental resilience (building inner strength), concrete supports (knowing how to find help), social connections (connecting with others), knowledge of child development (parenting as children grow), and social-emotional competency of children (helping kids understand emotions). When families have protective factors in their lives, abuse is less likely to occur.
Prevention Webinar Series 2022	Bi-Monthly Webinars will be held on Prevention Topics. Become a member of the Office of Child and Family Services or Maine Children's Trust Listservs to get notifications of planned webinars.

Child Abuse Prevention Month Visuals for April

Social Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use social media cover photos, GIFs, and other graphics on your social media page, email signature line, zoom background, etc. These graphics can be found here. • Use sample social media posts found below. • Use the pinwheel as your profile picture (a symbol of the importance of child abuse prevention efforts.) • Share the Maine Children's Trust Facebook posts during April. • Tag the Trust @MaineChildrensTrust on Facebook and @mechildrenstrust on Instagram and use hashtags #CAPMonth #wearblueday2022 #GrowingBetterTogether 
Wear Blue Day	April 1 st is Wear Blue Day! Join the Facebook event , take a staff picture wearing blue – post it to social media and share messaging found in this chart. Tag @MaineChildrensTrust and use hashtags #CAPMonth #wearblueday2022 #GrowingBetterTogether



Child Abuse Prevention Month Messaging

Social Media Sample Posts	Include the hashtags #ChildAbusePreventionMonth and #ThrivingFamilies to keep the conversation going.
	April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. Learn tips and strategies to help keep children safe and promote family well-being. #ChildAbusePreventionMonth #ThrivingFamilies https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/preventionmonth/resources/resource-guide/
	All families need help sometimes. Make the commitment this month to learn new ways to strengthen child and family wellbeing. #ChildAbusePreventionMonth #ThrivingFamilies https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/preventionmonth/
	Focusing on family strengths helps children, youth, and families build resilience. This month consider what helps keep your family strong and thriving and learn some new strategies on the National Child Abuse Prevention Month website. #ChildAbusePreventionMonth #ThrivingFamilies https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/preventionmonth/resources/conversation-guides/
	April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. Thriving families depend on strong support systems. Support can come from family, friends, neighbors, and others in the community. Learn what it takes to invest in families. #ChildAbusePreventionMonth #ThrivingFamilies https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/preventionmonth/resources/conversation-guides/
	When we invest in children, we are investing in their future. This April, learn how communities can come together to ensure children have what they need to be the best they can be! #ChildAbusePreventionMonth #ThrivingFamilies https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/preventionmonth/
	Child Abuse Prevention starts with each one of us. Together we can make it easier for families to access support services and learn how to identify and build on family strengths. Visit the National Child Abuse Prevention Month website for more information. #ChildAbusePreventionMonth #ThrivingFamilies https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/preventionmonth/
	Everyone has a role to play in helping the families in our communities be resilient and access support. Learn more about protective factors. Prevention starts with you! #ThrivingFamilies #ChildAbusePreventionMonth https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/preventionmonth/resources/resource-guide/
By providing all families with equal opportunity and access to the supports they need, we can help improve the safety and well-being of children and youth across the country. Visit the National Child Abuse Prevention Month website for more information. #ChildAbusePreventionMonth #ThrivingFamilies https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/preventionmonth/	

Year-Round Prevention Strategies

National Resources	Visit the National Child Abuse Prevention Month website to find <u>year-round support</u> on educating your community about how strengthening families puts prevention into practice
Protective Factors	Child Welfare Information Gateway Protective Factors Toolkit : Tip Sheets, Resource Guides, Activity Calendars.
Strategies everyone can do!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educate yourself and your staff on Protective Factors and learn how help individuals and families build them. To attend a free local Protective Factors training contact a local Prevention Council. • Connect families with local services and supports such as Maine Families or the Prevention Councils. • Support a parent(s) in Recovery. • Message and understand that “Parenting is Hard Work: Self-care and support for others is important.” Getting help is a sign of strength.



- Stay connected with your family and share this message with others.
- Join together to prevent maltreatment: Understand and spread the message that we all have a role (family, friends, medical providers, child care providers, grocery store clerks, postmen, delivery persons, neighbors, service providers) in preventing child abuse and neglect.
- Become familiar with [Mandated Reporting](#) and take advantage of [Mandated Reporting training](#) opportunities online or through the Maine Children's Trust.
- Milestones Matter: Help individuals and families ensure that important milestones are met for young children and youth.
- Stand up to Bullying: Learn and exercise [Bullying Prevention](#) strategies.
- Connect with other parents for advice or support. Join other parents [in your area](#).
- Be a child's hero. [Mattering](#) is an important aspect of resilience. Take the time to be a role model or a caring adult in a child's life.
- Be an informed parent. Know what is happening with your child, monitor their behavior, model positive behavior, and be attentive to their needs.
- [Everyone](#) can be a champion of safety for our children.
- Engage with and form a web of support around families. Who are family, friends, neighbors and other close connections that can support a family so when they are in need, the support is there.
- Review the [latest bulletins](#) for child welfare professionals, factsheets for families, and issue briefs that cover research and evidence-based or evidence-informed practices for preventing maltreatment.
- Understand the Continuum of Child Abuse Prevention by reviewing and examining the [2021/2022 Prevention Resource Guide](#)
- Learn more about how to [Support Families](#) in Maine.

See next page for a suggested
Timeline of Activities



National Child Abuse Prevention Month Timeline of Activities

<p>April 1st</p>	<p>Today marks the start of National Child Abuse Prevention Month. Update your social media cover images with one of the National Child Abuse Prevention Month banners and publish a social media post announcing the first day of National Child Abuse Prevention Month.</p> <p>Change your email signature line to include one of the graphics provided here.</p> <p>April 1st is Wear Blue Day! Join the Facebook event, take a staff picture wearing blue – post it to social media and share messaging found in this chart. Tag @MaineChildrensTrust and use hashtags #CAPMonth #wearblueday2022 #GrowingBetterTogether.</p>
<p>#FamilyFirstFriday</p>	<p>Use the #FamilyFirstFriday hashtag to schedule posts each Friday highlighting key activities or tips families can use to strengthen their protective factors. Prompt your followers to ask themselves meaningful questions from the Prevention Conversation Guides designed to reflect the six protective factors and capture their attention with available GIFs. Follow @childwelfaregov on Twitter for ideas or to share their #FamilyFirstFriday tweets.</p>
<p>First Week of April (4/3/22)</p>	<p>Make it clear that thriving children and families depend on community support—share a “We Support” graphic in your email newsletter and on your social media pages.</p> <p>Help make a difference in your community by encouraging the people in your networks to learn more about preventing child abuse. Use the sample social media posts and social media banners to help raise awareness during the month of April. Include the hashtags #ChildAbusePreventionMonth and #ThrivingFamilies to keep the conversation going.</p>
<p>Second Week of April (4/10/22)</p>	<p>Put your own logo and message on a customizable, National Child Abuse Prevention Month special edition of a “WE CAN Work to End Child Abuse and Neglect” graphic.</p> <p>Make a list of unique professions or people who you think haven’t heard about Child Abuse Prevention efforts and develop outreach strategies to raise awareness. (Example: create flyers to give to janitors, clergy, postal workers, etc.) Send specific messages to professions or groups to raise awareness that it is everyone’s role to prevent child abuse and neglect.</p>
<p>Third Week of April (4/17/22)</p>	<p>Browse our sample social media posts to keep the conversation going. Share the graphic on protective factors to help educate others on the importance of strengthening families.</p> <p>Create a meeting for your organization to have a conversation about Child Abuse Prevention and what you and your staff can do all year around to be aware, be active, and be engaged in Child Abuse Prevention.</p>
<p>Fourth Week of April (4/24/22)</p>	<p>Sign up for webinar and training opportunities to continue to learn more about Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect in Maine including Mandated Reporting and how you can be an important part of this effort for our state. Share these opportunities with your colleagues and other professionals.</p> <p>Continue to use sample social media posts to keep the conversation going. Share the graphics to help educate others on the importance of prevention, protective factors, and strengthening families.</p>
<p>All Year Long!</p>	<p>Don’t stop spreading the word—use the Prevention messages and resources throughout the year! Download a copy of the Prevention Resource Guide and use this to become informed about Prevention!</p> <p>Commit to learning more about Prevention and what you can do to support families and youth as early in their lives as possible to prevent any risk of abuse or neglect.</p> <p>Educate yourself on Protective Factors and learn how help individuals and families build them. To attend a free local Protective Factors training contact a local Prevention Council.</p> <p>Connect families with local services and supports such as Maine Families or the Prevention Councils.</p>