

Preparing for Prevent Child Abuse Month 2016

April is Prevent Child Abuse Month and that seems a long way off until we look at all the preparation that is needed to be successful in spreading the word and getting our community involved. The Community Coalition for Craven County Children (C5) works year around to plan and coordinate all the activities that transpire during April. C5 is arranging for speaking opportunities to share the vision of the organization with the community and to solicit help in spreading the word about strengthening families. C5 is also planning a Parenting Café in Havelock on April 12th to gather parents to discuss their hopes and dreams for their children and how they can help make them reality. Parents and helpers are needed for this effort that is being hosted by New Beginnings Ministry on Park Lane. There will be Opening Ceremonies in Havelock on April 6th at Walter B. Jones Park and in New Bern on April 7th at the Farmers' Market. These will be times to celebrate our families and children and to come together to show our community support of the agencies that work throughout the year to serve our families in need.

The pinwheel is the symbol used to represent the bright shining future of every child. C5 hopes that there will be blue pinwheels on every street in Craven County. Businesses, organizations and neighborhoods as well as individual families are encouraged to plant their pinwheels to show their support. Wouldn't it be wonderful if there were pinwheels around every tree on Middle, Pollock and Craven Streets! Our children would be thrilled and the adults would be constantly reminded of the responsibility to ensure the health and safety of every child. C5 can assist you with your order of pinwheels, a lawn sign or a home kit which includes both. Call Mrs. Essie at 252-6472 or email her at essie.mallilson@cravencountync.gov to place your order now. For more information on other ways you can help call Terry Brubaker at 252-514-9550 or terrytb49@gmail.com

Respectfully Submitted,

Cheryl Reed, Chairperson

Community Coalition for Craven County Children (C5)

Vision: *That every child in Craven County has a safe, healthy and caring environment where each one can reach his or her full potential through strong families and a supportive community.*

Mission: *We provide Craven County families with educational information on child development, safety and parenting, and promote the improvement of outcomes for families and children in our community.*