**Child Abuse Prevention Month**

**2018 Calendar of Events**

**March 2018**

* The Woman’s Club of Colorado Springs planted in front of Colorado Springs City Hall. The City Council also read a Proclamation.

**March 29, 2018**

* Proclamation by the El Paso County Board of County Commissioners. Meeting begins at 9 a.m. in the auditorium at 200 S. Cascade Ave, Colorado Springs.
* Pinwheel planting in front of Centennial Hall follow the meeting.

**April 1-30, 2018**

* CO4Kids and Illuminate Colorado are partnering to hold a statewide pinwheel photo contest. Information about prizes, guidelines, and voting is online at <https://www.illuminatecolorado.org/pinwheels4prevention>. Winners (photos with the most likes) will be announced at the beginning of May.

**April 1-28**

* The third annual Cases of Love suitcase and toiletries drive supports foster children throughout El Paso County. They will be accepting new or gently used luggage/backpacks and duffel bags along with unopened hygiene products. Information is online at [www.facebook.com/CasesofLoveSuitCasesForFosterKids](http://www.facebook.com/CasesofLoveSuitCasesForFosterKids). Items may be dropped off at the following locations:
  + Office of the Sheriff; 210 S. Tejon St., Colorado Springs, 80903
  + El Paso County Criminal Justice Center Visitor Center; 2727 E Las Vegas St, Colorado Springs, CO 80906
  + 24 Hour Fitness clubs
    - 7720 N. Academy Boulevard, Colorado Springs, CO 80920
    - 3650 Austin Bluffs Parkway, Unit 197, Colorado Springs, CO 80918
    - 1892 Southgate Rd, Colorado Springs, CO 80906

**April 2, 2018**

* Children’s Hospital Colorado, Anschutz Medical Campus, is hosting a Child Abuse Prevention Month Event in the Atrium, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Breakfast provided by Bellco will be from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Speakers and program begins at 10 a.m. until 11 a.m.
* Growing up is about more than inches. Nurturing relationships help your child grow up happy and healthy. Children’s Hospital Colorado has developed a growth chart to help track your child’s physical and emotional development from 6 months to 5 years of age. Request a growth chart online: <https://www.childrenscolorado.org/community/community-health/early-childhood/request-growth-chart/>

**April 3, 2018**

* Join the Colorado Department of Human Services and others at the Child Abuse Prevention Month Kickoff from 9 to 11 a.m. on the West Steps of the State Capitol. The event will feature speakers, including Colorado Lt.Gov. Donna Lynne, addressing the importance of individuals and communities working together to strengthen families, which is one of the most effective ways to prevent child abuse from occurring.
* Proclamation by the Manitou Springs City Council. Meeting begins at 6 p.m. in the council chambers, City Hall, 606 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs

**Fridays in April**

* The El Paso County Department of Human Services employees will be wearing blue every Friday to recognize Child Abuse Prevention for the month of April. We invite the community to also wear blue in support of Child Abuse Prevention.

**April 6, 2018**

* Wear Blue Day – Illuminate Colorado is participating in Wear Blue 2018, a day dedicated to celebrating child abuse prevention efforts across the country. You can get involved in Wear Blue day by:
  + Wearing blue on April 6 and tell people you are participating in a national day to highlight child abuse prevention.
  + Take a picture of yourself and your colleagues all dressed in blue and share it on your favorite social media platform using the #WearBlue hashtag.
  + Share a story of how you help mentor children, advocate for policies that keep kids safe, or donate time or money to a local child serving organization and inspire others to get involved during Child Abuse Prevention month.
  + We encourage everyone in Colorado to check out the hashtag #WearBlue on twitter and Facebook to see how they can get involved during Child Abuse Prevention month!

**April 7, 2018**

* The Cases of Love Celebration Barbeque is set from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Nordstrom Rack, 7645 N. Academy Blvd. The event is a “thank you” for the community and those who have supported the Cases of Love project. There will be free hot dogs and snacks, as well as balloons and face painting for children. Donations of new or gently used luggage/backpacks and duffel bags along with unopened hygiene products will be accepted. Information is available online at [www.facebook.com/CasesofLoveSuitCasesForFosterKids](http://www.facebook.com/CasesofLoveSuitCasesForFosterKids).

**April 9, 2018**

* El Paso County Department of Human Services employees will plant a pinwheel garden outside the traffic circle at the Citizens Service Center Building, 1675 W. Garden of the Gods Road at approximately 10 a.m. Staff will also be wearing blue recognize Child Abuse Prevention Month.

**April 10, 2018**

* Proclamation by the Fountain City Council. Meeting begins at 6 p.m. at City Hall, 116 South Main St., Fountain.

**April 16, 2016**

* Proclamation by the Monument Board of Trustees. Meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. at Monument Town Hall, 645 Beacon Lite Road, Monument.

**April 18, 2016**

* Child Trafficking Short Film and Discussion Panel will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Centennial Hall Auditorium, 200 S Cascade Ave. The short film “Chosen” will be shown, followed by a brief presentation by child trafficking survivor Kelly Dore. A panel will answer questions about trafficking. The event will wrap up with a candlelight vigil to honor victims. Light refreshments will be served, and parking in the County’s Sahwatch Garage is free for the event.

**April 24, 2018**

* Peaceful Households will host its fifth annual Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention Conference from 7:15 a.m. to 5 p.m. at The Antlers Hotel, 4 S. Cascade Ave. This year's workshop-style conference on “Connecting ACES to Action” is led by nationally renowned speakers and practitioners Laura Porter and Tim Grove. This interactive event is designed to help individuals and organizations connect the neuro-science of the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study to trauma informed care. For more details and to register, visit: <https://www.peacefulhouseholds.org/2018-annual-conference>

**April 27, 2018**

* The Exchange Club of Falcon is hosting a Child Abuse Prevention Information Fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Room 1017 of the Citizens Service Center. Several community organizations will be sharing information. There will be safety demonstrations and free items to be given away to those who visit, such as baby boxes for safe sleep, quilts, and gun locks.

**April 28, 2018**

* The third annual Cases of Love suitcase and toiletries drive wraps up with the Cases of Love Drop Off Event from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 24 Hour Fitness Center, Austin Bluffs Parkway, Unit 197, Colorado Springs, CO 80918. Volunteers will be accepting new or gently used luggage/backpacks and duffel bags along with unopened hygiene products. Information is shared online at [www.facebook.com/CasesofLoveSuitCasesForFosterKids](http://www.facebook.com/CasesofLoveSuitCasesForFosterKids).