Child Abuse Prevention Month
Painting for Prevention
• Since 2008, 26 collaborative murals have been created in communities across the state.
• Local stakeholders design and create the artwork as an ongoing prevention message.
• This slide show will give you a sample of our Painting for Prevention events
This mural was created by residents of My Sister’s Place, a program for women in recovery from Substance Use Disorder and their children. It is placed at the entrance to the facility, as a message of hope for new residents beginning their journey as mothers in recovery.
The geography around the community is often an integral part of the mural design. In this example, we worked with Allegheny County DHS and the Children’s Museum of Pittsburgh, to depict the city’s skyline and families.
Erie- 2016

This is the Erie mural about one hour into the process. Each mural takes about 4 hours to complete.

Lighthouses symbolized love and guidance from grandparents to children. Here’s the finished mural.
Across the Commonwealth - 2009
Allentown, Harrisburg, Scranton, Uniontown

These four murals were created independently, but designed to fit together by means of the spiral in the center.
Erie – 2016, Harrisburg - 2010 and Clarion 2012

Both children and adults enjoy Painting for Prevention.

Beth Burkhauser of Heart to Art has worked on each of our murals.
The Uniontown (Fayette County) event was a community-wide observation of Child Abuse Prevention Month, with teens taking the lead in creating the mural. Our partner in this project was the Crime Victims Center.
Greensburg - 2010

We worked in partnership with Family Services of Western PA and Seton Hill University’s art department to create this “quilt” representing comfort and safety for children.
Our murals are designed and painted by members of the community.
The women at SCI Muncy illustrated the journey from incarceration to returning home to their families. The dreamcatcher is keeping the bad dreams at the institution while the good dreams follow them home. The message here was “Prayers go up, blessings come down.”
The creation of this mural, in partnership with the CARE Center of Indiana County, coincided with the beginning of PFSA’s Front Porch Project. Neighbors looking out for kids and helping families became the theme of this artwork.
Community members in Lancaster wanted to focus on the area’s agriculture in this mural created at the Lancaster YWCA.
Eight-year-old Skylar Miller of State College proves that you are never too young to help prevent child abuse. Skylar raised over $450 for PFSA’s prevention efforts at our event in the Nittany Mall.

The Centre County Youth Service Bureau brought the community together for a positive experience after the Sandusky scandal.
Teens who are living in Clarion County’s Independent Living Program designed and created this mural at the Clarion Mall. They included items such as colorful leaves, since Clarion is “the autumn leaf capital.”

The Easter Bunny added a few strokes to the York mural, created in the Central Market with help from the Child Abuse Prevention and Outreach Committee of York.
This mural, created by residents in a Community Corrections Center, depicts the journey from prison to family and community. The residents felt strongly about including a child in the barbed wire on the left-hand side “because your child does the time with you.”
Northumberland County Children and Youth took the lead on this mural, painted by both adults and children at the local library.
Berwick – 2012 and Bristol - 2010

This is the only outdoor mural created to date. It illustrates Berwick’s sports history and recreational activities.

Families who attend the Kelly Family Center programs in Bristol created the mural below.
Students at the Mariana Bracetti Charter School depicted their neighborhood – both the positives and negatives – in this mural. They were helped by their mentors through Big Brothers/Big Sisters.
We participated in a community-wide observance of the Week of the Young Child in partnership with Beginnings, Inc. Flowers along the bottom were at just the right height for young children to paint!
Erie – 2016 and York- 2015

A fun afternoon painting for this grandmother and granddaughter in Erie.

Judith Youshock of Heart to Art works with children at this mural in York. Our long-time affiliate, The Lehman Center, was our partner.
The Martin Memorial Library was the setting for this mural, which featured characters from classic children’s literature.
Last year’s murals were created in Erie and Easton (shown here). The Crayola Experience was the location and we had lots of help from Crayola visitors and our partner, Pinebrook Family Answers.
On each mural, painters can sign their names on the back of the mural.
We can prevent child abuse in Pennsylvania.

“When people hear what others are doing to create positive, healthy communities for our kids, their immediate response is ‘I can do that!’”

“As we expand our actions and influence one little step at a time, we will be contributing to a quiet revolution that will restore the type of culture that is healthy for our kids, and hence, healthy for us all.”

For more information on *Painting for Prevention*:
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