



Making PA a Safe Place for Kids: A Look Back at 2018



We will soon welcome a new year, with new resolutions and much to look forward to. But one thing remains steady and true year after year — our commitment to making PA a safe place where all children can thrive free from abuse and neglect.

Our strong statewide partnerships and the hard work of Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention Agencies throughout PA helped us respond to statewide crises and improve community awareness of their role in helping kids. We thank you for your support and the work you do to #ProtectPAKids.

SOME OF OUR HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2018



374

Mandated Reporter
Training Sessions

11,450

Individuals Trained

► **We equipped more people to report child abuse and neglect.**

In 2018, PFSA conducted 374 state-funded training sessions for mandated reporters, offering free training to 11,450 individuals on how to spot and report child abuse and neglect. Additionally, PFSA's network of 398 active organizational trainers conducted internal sessions at schools, agencies and other locations across the state. We welcome the 100 new organizational trainers who joined us during 2018!

► **We responded to the opioid epidemic with practical solutions.**

The Office of Child Development and Early Learning partnered with PFSA to offer support and parent education to those impacted by the opioid crisis in PA. Twelve Family Centers across Pennsylvania will implement Families In Recovery: Strengthening Connections One Day at a Time. This research- and trauma-informed, 7-week program and curriculum will begin statewide in January 2019. We anticipate reaching 145 parents during the first cycle of the pilot program.

► **We encouraged community involvement to protect kids.**

The Front Porch Project debuted in Western Pennsylvania during 2018. Sixteen child-welfare and human services professionals participated in a two-day facilitator workshop. They learned how to encourage community-wide discussions in Butler County neighborhoods about preventing child abuse and neglect.

100
New Organizational
Trainers in 2018

398
Active Trainers



► **We trained more facilitators of programs for caregivers.**

ACT Raising Safe Kids Evidence-Based Parenting Program grew in Philadelphia this year. Public Health Management Corporation's Parenting Collaborative of Philadelphia, which includes child-welfare professionals and community programs, hosted two two-day facilitator training sessions over the summer. There are now 42 ACT program facilitators in Philadelphia County. They are equipped and prepared to offer this valuable violence prevention program to caregivers of children ages 0-8.

► **We supported the passage of bills aiding kinship caregivers.**

The passing of House Bill 1539 and House Bill 2133 in October enacted new laws supporting kinship caregivers and PA grandfamilies. Pennsylvania has nearly 90,000 kinship care families, due largely to parental substance abuse. These bills establish temporary guardianship for kinship caregivers and create a Kinship Caregiver Navigator Program. PA Family Support Alliance led a listening tour this fall that mobilized grandparents raising grandchildren around the state to support these two new laws. We brought grandparents to meet members of Gov. Wolf's cabinet to share the hurdles they face supplying safe and loving care to their grandchildren. Their voices were heard, and now the new laws will help them navigate a path to a brighter future for these children.



Train-the-Trainer Program for Mandated Reporter Training

PFSA's Train-the-Trainer program allows organizations to develop their own quality, cost-efficient child abuse recognition and reporting training program for employees and volunteers. With a three-year contract, PFSA provides two days of initial instruction for approved applicants, reporting of continuing education credits directly to the PA Department of State and Department of Education, and on-going support.

Many schools, churches, service agencies and other organizations across the state have benefited from this program, which helps build and expand in-house expertise.

- ▶ Organizational trainers attend a two-day comprehensive training that includes instruction and practice sessions. These trainers then offer PFSA's training to colleagues within their organization.
- ▶ PFSA provides updates regarding changes to the CPSL, on-going technical assistance and trainer development teleconferences.

The two-day training sessions for new trainers are being scheduled in each region of the state for 2019. To find out more or sign up, please call PFSA at 800-448-4906 or email training@pa-fsa.org.



YOU CAN STILL HELP US MAKE A DIFFERENCE THIS YEAR

Thank you for your generosity and contributions in 2018! Your gift is one that helps PA kids and families achieve their full potential. Every gift matters, helping us maintain our commitment to ensuring a bright future for our children. We can do so much more because of you. There is still time to make an end-of-year contribution. Please visit www.pa-fsa.org, or call us at (717) 238-0937.

