



Pennsylvania
Family Support Alliance™

Protecting children from abuse

Protecting Children from Abuse is Our Mission.

And everyone's responsibility.



Pennsylvania
Family Support Alliance™

Protecting children from abuse

- Training for professionals
- Support for families
- Education for communities

2000 Linglestown Road
Suite 301
Harrisburg, PA 17110

717-238-0937
800-448-4906

pa-fsa.org

We raise awareness and empower others to take a stand.

For more than 30 years, Pennsylvania Family Support Alliance (PFSA) has provided families and communities across the Commonwealth with the information and support to create safe environments for kids. Our advocacy and educational initiatives empower all of Pennsylvania's citizens to prevent the mistreatment of children – and to recognize and report when it does occur.

Children are precious and fragile. **Abuse can take the form of physical, sexual or emotional harm**, and its tragic impact can follow the victim throughout his or her life.

We believe that strong families and communities are the key to eliminating abuse and neglect from our culture. That's why we work passionately every day to educate parents, professionals and communities about child abuse and ways that they can be part of the solution.

We provide support for families.

No community in Pennsylvania – whether urban, suburban or rural – is beyond the reach and impact of child abuse. That's why Pennsylvania Family Support Alliance partners with more than 50 local affiliate agencies across Pennsylvania to provide information, educational materials, and programs that teach and support good parenting practices. **Almost all (97%) parents who attend a PFSA-affiliated program report having a better relationship with their child and other family members.**

Parenting is challenging for every family, and even more difficult when stressors such as poverty, addiction and illness exist. From our years of experience, however, PFSA knows that when families – no matter what their challenges – have information, support and access to resources, they are more likely to make good parenting decisions and keep their children safe.

To help families create a positive atmosphere of care and support in which children can thrive, Pennsylvania Family Support Alliance provides a wide range of support to parents via local family support programs. Our resource-rich website (pa-fsa.org) puts parents and caregivers in touch with helpful parenting tips, informative publications and videos, plus supportive programming, trainings and events.

We provide training for professionals.

Professionals who come in contact with our state's children are required by law to report suspected child abuse. These people – such as social service workers, teachers and school employees, law enforcement authorities, and members of the clergy – have a high accountability with regard to the safety of children and are referred to as mandated reporters.

Pennsylvania Family Support Alliance is the state's authoritative source for mandated reporter training. PFSA presents hundreds of training sessions annually to schools, early childhood education centers, law enforcement agencies, faith-based institutions, and social service agencies.

We train participants to recognize the signs of abuse and neglect, and to know how to properly report such instances. A study by a research associate at Johns Hopkins University concluded that our training has a positive, long-term impact on participants' knowledge of the law and reporting requirements – and that's encouraging news for the safety and future of our kids.

We help individuals find their roles in their communities.

Keeping children safe from abuse is everyone's responsibility. Protecting children and supporting families makes each one of us – and our Pennsylvania communities – stronger.

All of us must learn, get involved and find the resources needed to protect our children from abuse. We must hold ourselves accountable for the safety and well-being of the children in our community – and be a champion of change.

Reaching out to inform communities about child abuse empowers individuals to support families as they guide and safeguard their children. The Front Porch Project® is an effective training initiative sponsored by PFSA that educates community members so they can step in to help children in their neighborhoods and public places.

Whatever your interaction with children – as a family member, caregiver, neighbor or professional – Pennsylvania Family Support Alliance has the information and support to help you protect them. Find out more by visiting our website at pa-fsa.org.

