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Governor Daniels and Prevent Child Abuse Indiana Kick Off Child Abuse Prevention Month April 2

Indianapolis -- Each year, more than 20,000 Hoosier children are abused and neglected – that equates to 56 children being harmed every day and one child each week losing his or her young life to child abuse. On April 2, Governor Mitch Daniels will join **Prevent Child Abuse** Indiana to kick-off Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Governor Daniels will be joined by others to help Hoosiers understand that no one can do everything. But everyone can do something. And together, we can do anything. Together, we can prevent child abuse!

WHAT: Child Abuse Prevention Month Kick Off

WHEN: Thursday, April 2

TIME: 10 a.m.

WHERE: Indiana State House, 200 W. Washington St.

WHO:

- Governor Mitch Daniels
- Sharon Pierce, President & CEO, The Villages and **Prevent Child Abuse** Indiana, a Division of The Villages
- Dave Judkins, Deputy Director of Field Operations, Department of Child Services
- Children from IUPUI's Center for Young Children
- Survivor of child abuse to share her story

Child welfare concerns in Indiana have escalated to a state of crisis, and the growing number of heartbreaking child abuse and neglect stories making headlines illustrate an urgent need for parental support and intervention for at-risk families. This year's theme for Child Abuse Prevention Month is "Cherishing Children...Affirming Families" – a time when **Prevent Child Abuse** Indiana will be challenging every Hoosier to help protect and nurture the children in their homes, families, neighborhoods and faith communities. In addition, **Prevent Child Abuse** Indiana's KIDS CAN'T WAIT initiative will be promoted so EVERY parent knows that information is available by calling 1-800-CHILDREN!

Photo Op:

- 1000 blue pinwheels will be visible on the grounds of the State House, each one representing 87 new Hoosiers and collectively representing the 87,000 live births of children in Indiana.

About Prevent Child Abuse Indiana (PCAI)

As a Division of The Villages, **Prevent Child Abuse** Indiana serves as a catalyst for preventing child abuse in all its forms and thereby enhancing the quality of life for children and families in Indiana. By working with diverse national, state and local groups, and volunteers to facilitate child abuse prevention programs across the state, PCAI advocates for policies, programs and practices that value children and families. For more information visit www.pcaain.org or call 317.542.7002.

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