



# Prevent Child Abuse Indiana™

*A Division of The Villages*

**Prevent Child Abuse Indiana** is a division of The Villages, dedicated to the prevention of child abuse in all its forms, ensuring that every child grows up in a safe and nurturing environment. **Prevent Child Abuse Indiana** is a state charter of **Prevent Child Abuse America**.

All programs are designed for the general public and center around providing parents and caregivers with the support and skills they need to perform their roles as effectively as possible.

**Prevent Child Abuse Indiana** was started by a group of human service providers who became convinced the community needed a voice dedicated to child abuse and neglect. In 1977, this group became the Indiana Chapter of **Prevent Child Abuse America** (one of 48 chapters nationwide) and in 2007, became a division of the Villages of Indiana.

## **Our Mission**

To prevent child abuse through education, public awareness and advocacy which promote positive parenting and healthy families where children are valued and loved.

## **Our Objective**

**Prevent Child Abuse Indiana** would like to increase the awareness of child abuse prevention throughout the communities in the state of Indiana highlighting the month of April: National Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month.

## **Our Goal**

**Prevent Child Abuse Indiana** is seeking to collaborate with Girl Scout Troops throughout the state of Indiana to create educational steps where members are given the opportunity to share public awareness through the planting of pinwheels (the national symbol for Prevent Child Abuse) during the month of April with the overall goal of earning a badge for this community service.

## **Pinwheel**

Pinwheels represent happy, healthy childhoods and have become the national symbol of child abuse prevention. Since 2008, advocates and volunteers across the country have come together to plant pinwheel gardens in their communities, drawing attention to the need for effective programs and policies that ensure the physical, emotional, and mental well-being of children and their families. In April, National Child Abuse Prevention Month, we highlight planting pinwheels to celebrate great childhoods. You can help kids and families in your community by doing some of your favorite things like supporting kids through mentorship, you are aiding in their healthy development or supporting parents, you are helping to ensure positive environments where children can thrive. When parents have the support to be able to do their best, kids can be their best. In fact, in a national survey conducted by **Prevent Child Abuse America**, 94% of parents said they were in need of help and support, and over 86% said they would be grateful for services, childcare or other support as they raise their children; however less than 20% actually seek help. Just as it takes action to make a pinwheel move, it takes action to make prevention happen. By planting pinwheels, you are take action by helping to raise awareness of child maltreatment prevention.

Ideas for incorporating Pinwheels into your Child Abuse Prevention Month activities include:

- **Pinwheels should never be used to represent deaths from child abuse or reported cases of child abuse (Example -- as in a VIGIL).**
- Let the media know about your pinwheel garden and its significance.
- Ask your local radio stations to run public service announcements in support of Child Abuse Prevention Month.
- Consider planting pinwheels at childcare centers, schools, nursing homes, hospitals, courthouses, health departments, libraries, and other highly visible locations.
- Decorate your home, office, classroom or business with Pinwheels.
- Make your own pinwheels as a group or class project using provided templates. Pinwheel color sheets are also available.

## **PINWHEEL PATCH INFORMATION**

In order for a Girl Scout to earn the Pinwheel Patch the following steps need to be followed:

**Education and Site Selection:** Educate girls on the objective and goal of the pinwheel planting. During the educational process the Troop Leader will share the importance of the project, discuss various sites where the pinwheels could be placed in their community and set a plan with the girls on who to contact and what they should share with the location about the pinwheel project. The troop leader will receive education materials regarding the importance of the pinwheel and share this information with the troop. To earn a Pinwheel Patch, you need to have at least one planting site in your community. This patch will be offered year-round but will be highlighted during the month of April because it is National Child Abuse Prevention month.

**Site Visitation:** Create a site contact plan with a community location they feel is visible in their community. Girl Scouts will work with their Troop Leader to put together a verbal presentation plan to share with the site on the goal and objective for the pinwheel planting.

Site Examples:

- Local Schools
- Banks
- Grocery Stores
- Places of worship
- Community Centers

**Planting Agreements:** Work directly with a community site to set a time and date when the pinwheels will be planted. The Girl Scout/Troop will create a planting agreement with the chosen site regarding when/where to plant the pinwheels.

**Pinwheel Planting:** The troop leader will order a pinwheel garden which includes either 24 w/1 lawn sign or 48 pinwheels w/2 lawn signs. Once the agreement with the site is finalized the Girl Scout/Troop will go out on the designated day and plant the pinwheels.

**Site Cleanup:** The Girl Scout/Troop in charge of the site planting will be required to remove the pinwheels after the planting. It is the responsibility of the Scout/Troop to work with the site to set up a removal date. The goal is to have the pinwheels shown in the community for a minimum of two weeks.

**To order the Pinwheel Garden/patch:** The cost will be \$35 for a 24-pinwheel garden w/1 yard sign or \$55.00 for a 48-pinwheel garden w/2 yard signs. Also include the number of patches needed for your group. Here is the link to that form: [Pinwheel-Order-Form.pdf \(pcain.org\)](#)

**Take Pictures:** After the planting is complete, please take a picture(s) and email to our PCAIN Program Support Specialist at [kking.pcain@villages.org](mailto:kking.pcain@villages.org) for participation verification.