Insert organization’s logo

Date:

Contact:

Dear Editor:

Did you know that simple moments with the kids in our lives - like cooking with them, playing a board game with them, even singing with them - makes a big difference? It helps them grow up feeling safe and secure, filling our communities with compassionate, caring people which makes us all stronger and healthier.

High levels of toxic stress in childhood can have a profound impact on a child’s developing brain increasing the likelihood of problems throughout a lifetime including depression, diabetes, and heart disease. An Iowa study of Adverse Childhood Experiences, (ACEs), found that more than half of Iowa adults have experienced at least one type of abuse or household dysfunction growing up.

However, social supports and caring connections strengthen families, mitigating the negative outcomes of childhood trauma and reduces the risk of child abuse or neglect. That is why *{name of your group or effort}* works to build caring connections in *{name of community}*. Through this effort, we can let everyone know that fostering connections with the children in their lives matters and that goes a long way to developing healthy minds and strong communities.

This April, *{Name of your group or effort}* and Prevent Child Abuse Iowa invite you to join us in taking action to advance this message through individual or community engagement. Attend a community workshop or host a training on Connections Matter® - an evidence based framework on implementing trauma informed practices. Reach out to a neighbor, help out with a Scout group, volunteer with our program, or support our continued work through a donation in the name of child abuse prevention.

You can also join *{Name of your group or effort}* in celebrating Child Abuse Prevention Month by *{describe activities you have planned this month and how someone can participate)* to learn more contact *{give contact information or website}.* Together we can give our children the foundation they need to reach their full potential and as a result, build a community that is safer, healthier and more prosperous overall, because connections matter. Learn more at [www.becauseconnectonsmatter.org](http://www.becauseconnectonsmatter.org) and *{organization website}*.

Sincerely,

*[Signature and Contact Information]*