



Niagara County FAMILY VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROJECT Newsletter

Volume 3

March 2019

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FVIP Meeting Dates - a free opportunity for learning and networking

All meetings take place at Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center Auditorium A or B at 9am. Dates are tentative to change.

- March 15
- June 21
- September 20
- December 6

More dates and information to follow. In the meantime, visit our website at <http://cacofniagara.org/services/family-violence-intervention-project/>

Child Abuse Prevention

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. One in four children have experienced abuse or neglect at some point in their lives, according to the National Survey of Children's Exposure to Violence. One in seven children experienced abuse in the past year.

Reports of child abuse and maltreatment continue to increase locally. Last year the Niagara County Department of Social Services investigated over 4,200 reports of child abuse and maltreatment.

Niagara County benefits from a long history of collaborative response to child abuse. Niagara County's Child Abuse Intervention Project (CAIP) is a multidisciplinary team of professionals from child protection, law enforcement, prosecution, medicine, victim advocacy, mental health treatment and the Child Advocacy Center of Niagara at Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center.

CAIP addresses the most serious forms of suspected child abuse and

maltreatment including sexual assault, physical injury, severe neglect, witnessing violence, child death and child trafficking. The Child Advocacy Center of Niagara provides a comfortable environment for investigative interviews, medical evaluation, therapy, advocacy and other support services. Professionals on the CAIP team are dedicated to protecting children and preventing further harm.

The entire community can play a role in protecting children from abuse and maltreatment. Protective factors are present in healthy families and healthy communities. Safe, stable, nurturing relationships between children and parents or other caregivers play a crucial role. Healthy relationships and environments help to support the long-term well-being of children.

Supports for parents, knowledge of positive parenting and child development, social connections and nurturing can all help.

For more information and prevention resources, visit our website at www.cacofniagara.org.

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Did you know...

- ◆ Every 98 seconds an American is Sexually Assaulted
- ◆ 91% of reported victims of rape and sexual assault are female, nine percent are male
- ◆ 81% of women and 35% of men report significant short or long term impacts such as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
- ◆ Rape is the most under-reported crime, 63% of sexual assaults are not reported to police, only 12% of child sexual abuse is reported to authorities.

It is important to know where to seek help. Learn more at: www.nsvrc.org

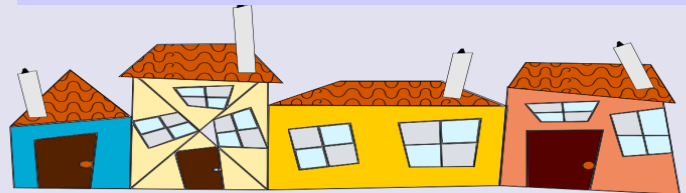
Awareness Events

Take Back The Night 2019

Niagara University's 4th Annual Take Back the Night (TBTN) event is scheduled for **Thursday, April 4th from 5:30pm-8:00pm**. Since the early 1970s, organizations and universities around the world have been holding TBTN events as a way to empower survivors and promote education and awareness around rape, sexual assault, and domestic violence. The event co-organizers, Dr. Dana Radatz and Dr. Jennifer Beebe work collaboratively with many Niagara University departments and student organizations, as well as community sponsors, such as Pinnacle Community Services, the Child Advocacy Center of Niagara, the Niagara County Sheriff's Office Victim Assistance Unit, and the YWCA of the Niagara Frontier. The event will feature resource tables, poster making, and a short formal program. Following the program, participants will engage in a campus wide march, and end the evening with a candlelight vigil in the Niagara University Chapel. The event admission is \$1 for students and \$5 for non-students. Hope to see you there!

Walk Round Hyde Park

April is National Child Abuse Prevention month. It is a time to celebrate the important role that communities play in protecting children and strengthening families. Everyone's participation is critical. Focusing on ways to connect with families is the best thing our community can do to strengthen families and prevent child abuse and neglect. Join us **Tuesday, April 30th at 4 pm** for a walk around Hyde Park. Show your support by wearing blue! The walk will commence at the Hyde Park Ice Pavilion, 911 Robbins Drive, Niagara Falls, NY 14301. Follow the Child Advocacy Center on Facebook to learn about other ways to show your support to end child abuse for good! <https://www.facebook.com/cacofniagara/>



Research Corner-
We are happy to provide you with recent research related to family violence



Study abstract

Using a pooled data set of two waves of the National Surveys of Children's Exposure to Violence, this study investigates links between indicators of socioeconomic resources and lifetime exposure to two different forms of child neglect (physical and supervisory), examines how neglect is associated with the risk of other types of victimization, and estimates the impact of neglect on trauma

symptoms. Findings suggest that physical neglect is directly linked to economic stressors, while low parental education is consequential for both physical and supervisory neglect. Both types of neglect also were strongly associated with risk of other maltreatment and most other forms of victimization. Physical neglect was particularly strongly related to sexual abuse and witnessing sibling abuse, while supervisory ne

glect was most strongly related to risk for sexual victimization by a nonfamily adult. Although neglect is significantly associated with trauma symptoms, poly-victims had, by far, the highest levels of trauma symptoms.

Turner, H. A., Vanderminde, J., Finkelhor, D., Hamby, S., (2019). Child Neglect and the Broader Context of Child Victimization. Child Maltreatment, 1-10. DOI: 10.1177/1077559518825312

If you would like a PDF copy of the article, please email Dana Radatz at dradatz@niagara.edu.

Happenings Around Town...

Here is what is happening:

Niagara County
Family Violence
Intervention Project

Safe at Home
Conference



Save the Date:
Wednesday, October 16, 2019
Niagara Falls, New York

NIAGARA UNIVERSITY
TAKE BACK the NIGHT

THURSDAY, APRIL 4TH

**IMAGINE A WORLD...
DARE TO BUILD IT**

5:30PM - RESOURCE TABLES
6:30PM - PROGRAM & SPEAKER
7:15PM - CAMPUS MARCH
7:30PM - CANDLELIGHT VIGIL

GALLAGHER CENTER GYM
ADMISSION: \$1 FOR STUDENTS \$5 NON-STUDENTS

**JOIN US AS WE TAKE A STAND AGAINST
RELATIONSHIP AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE**



JOIN US THIS APRIL AS WE RECOGNIZE

**NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE
PREVENTION MONTH**

AND

"PAINT THE COUNTY BLUE!"

HOW CAN YOU SHOW YOUR SUPPORT?



DISPLAY A PINWHEEL FOR PREVENTION



SHARE A PINWHEEL PIC USING #PAINTTHECOUNTYBLUE



ATTEND A PAINTING PARTY (SEE BACK OF THIS SHEET)



SHARE OUR SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS

FACEBOOK: @PINNACLECOMMUNITY

INSTAGRAM: @PINNACLECOMMUNITYSERVICES



JOIN US THIS APRIL AS WE RECOGNIZE

**NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE
PREVENTION MONTH**



PAINT THE COUNTY BLUE

A SERIES OF PAINTING PARTIES FOR CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION



WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3RD

HYATT PLACE NIAGARA FALLS

(FOOD & DRINK AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE)

310 RAINBOW BLVD

NIAGARA FALLS

7:00-9:00PM



WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10TH

PROJECT 308 GALLERY

308 OLIVER ST

NORTH TONAWANDA

6:00-8:00PM

SATURDAY, APRIL 13TH

LOCKPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY

(ADULTS ONLY)

23 EAST AVE

LOCKPORT

1:00-3:00PM

REGISTRATION REQUIRED. SPACE IS LIMITED.

\$20 PER PERSON, PER SESSION. SAME PROJECT FOR ALL SESSIONS.

CONTACT EILEEN FOR MORE INFORMATION:

285-6984 EXT.127 OR EWROBEL@PINNACLECS.ORG





WHAT IS FVIP

The Niagara County Family Violence Intervention Project (FVIP) is a coalition of agencies and organizations committed to addressing interpersonal violence and child abuse through collaborative responses, community education and professional training.

For nearly 20 years, FVIP has recognized the co-occurrence of child abuse and domestic violence and worked together to protect children and adults alike. Volunteer FVIP Steering Committee members set the FVIP's strategic agenda for training, collaboration, and networking for mutual support for a shared mission.

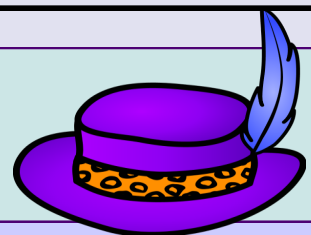
We are so excited to share the FVIP Newsletter with the community. We will be sharing news, events, and program highlights on a quarterly basis!

The FVIP is coordinated by the Child Advocacy Center of Niagara, Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center.

In the meantime, visit our website at <http://cacofniagara.org/services/family-violence-intervention-project/>

**Domestic Violence
Hotline #s:
Passage
(716) 299-0909
YWCA
(716) 433-6716**

**“HATS OFF!” to...
Sara Gates!**



Sara Gates is a Licensed Mental Health Counselor and has been a Clinical Specialist with the Child Advocacy Center of Niagara since 2011. In her role, Sara provides trauma-focused therapy to children and adolescents who are victims of sexual and physical abuse and who have witnessed domestic violence. Sara prides herself on being a part of a child's healing and in overcoming their trauma. She is fulfilled in bearing witness to the resilience and success of the children she serves. Sara constantly learns from her clients and their families and is grateful to be part of their lives, especially in times of such vulnerability. She loves the collaborative nature of her work and the MDT in particular. She appreciates learning from her team members who share their unique perspectives and experiences. Prior to the CAC, Sara worked for Catholic Charities as a Child and Adolescent Therapist and at Child & Family Services in the Restorative Justice Family Therapy Program. It was in this role that Sara first received training about trauma-informed therapy and began providing it to families. The CAC is very proud of Sara's dedication and her willingness to always go above and beyond for children and their families.

Hats off to you, Sara!