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Keep Kids Safe: Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention Month 2005

March 23, 2005 -- We all have a role to play to help prevent child abuse and neglect. Organizations across the country will drive home that point in April—the 22nd anniversary of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month.

☐ Ohio's theme implores: *Attention Adults: YOU Are the KEY to Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect.*

☐ The U.S. Department of Health and Services' tagline proclaims: *Safe Children and Healthy Families Are a Shared Responsibility.* (Become one of the STARS in your community.)

☐ In Hamilton County, we're using state prevention money to support those ideals with Keep Kids Safe messages on cinema screens in Springdale and Norwood. We're also purchasing sidewalk signs for agency buildings. Web pages, and cable TV public-service announcements (produced by the Public Children Services Association of Ohio) are planned. Blue ribbon pins and fliers are being distributed to schools.

Hamilton County Children's Services caseworkers investigate more than 5,500 reports of abuse and neglect each year. Children's Services, the county's child protection agency, counts on the community to help prevent child abuse. For more information, please visit www.hcjfs.org.

To report child abuse and neglect in Hamilton County, call 241-KIDS. For information on adoption, call 632-6366 or visit www.hcadopt.org. To learn about foster care, visit www.hcfoster.org.

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