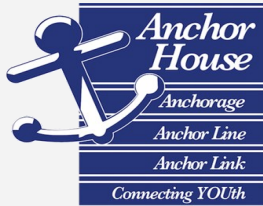


Connecting YOUTH Newsletter

April 2017



Anchor House Celebrates Our 39th Anniversary



Anchor House Shelter was founded in 1978 to move homeless and runaway youth off the streets of Trenton and reunite them with their family. Today, Anchor House Inc. provides shelter, school outreach, transitional and supportive housing, and street outreach to youth, ages 12 to 21 years of age, from Mercer County and throughout the state of New Jersey. Our Connecting Youth Program helps youth ages 14-17 build a support system so they have life-long connections within the community while gaining valuable life skills.

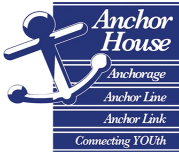
April Is National Child Abuse Prevention Month

National Child Abuse Prevention Month is a time to acknowledge the importance of families and communities working together to prevent child abuse and neglect, and to promote the social and emotional well-being of children and families. During the month of April and throughout the year, communities are encouraged to share child abuse and neglect prevention awareness strategies and activities and promote prevention across the country. In New Jersey Pinwheel Gardens are planted all over the state by schools and social service agencies. According to the Children's Trust Fund and Children's Bureau this year National Theme is "Building Community, Building Hope. Prevention begins with each of us – in our homes, neighborhoods, communities, schools, churches and wherever children and families congregate. Prevent Child Abuse America states, "All children deserve great childhoods because they are our future."

Participating in healthy relationships with family and friends is one way to combat abuse. Planting a pinwheel, or wearing a blue ribbon during this month is an outward expression that make the statement that you will not support abusive behavior by others and you will not engage in abusive behavior towards others. Start building your personal healthy community of family and friends and establish your foundation of hope through these connections. Please protect my smile.



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Abuse affects teens as well as children! Be part of the solution!
KNOW THE DIFFERENT KINDS OF ABUSE:

PHYSICAL: This includes any non-accidental injury caused by punching, beating, kicking, biting, shaking, throwing, stabbing, choking, hitting, burning or other harm caused by a parent, caregiver or other person who is responsible for a child. These injuries are considered abuse whether or not the caregiver intended harm.

SEXUAL: This includes any sexual act performed on a child (including teens) by an adult or older child, with or without force or threat of force. It may start as seemingly innocent touching and progress to more serious acts, including verbal seduction or abuse, anal or vaginal intercourse, oral sex, sodomy, manual stimulation, direct threats, implied threats or other forms of abuse.

EMOTIONAL: This is a pattern of behavior that harms a child's sense of self-worth. It can include constant criticism, threats or rejection, as well as withholding love, support or guidance. Emotional abuse can be difficult to prove without clear evidence of harm.

PSYCHOLOGICAL: This is a pattern of behavior that affects a child's sense of worth by making the child feel that he or she is not worthy, loved or important. It may include harsh demands, constant criticism, threats and yelling. Witnessing violence at home, in school, or in your community, is also a form of psychological abuse due to the intense fear it causes, making you feel unsafe.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

If you or someone you know is being abused, you must tell an adult you can trust! (This could be a teacher, counselor, school nurse, neighbor, police officer, or any non-abusing adult.) This may seem like a scary thing to do, but know that the abuse is NOT YOUR FAULT and there are people that will help it stop.

Get Connected:

Shelter: 609-396-8329

Anchorage: 609-989-1625

Connecting Youth 609 439-4215

Outreach: 609-218-5630

School Outreach: 609-396-8329



Resources For Help & Support

NJ Child Abuse Hotline (24 hours/day, 7 days/week): 877.652.2873

Anchor House Shelter (24 hours/day, 7 days/week): 609.396.8329

**Family Support Organization (FSO) of Mercer County: 609.586.1200
(mercerfso.org)**

Parents Anonymous: 609.585.7666 (pa-of-nj.org)

National Parent Helpline: 855.427.2736

Prevention Education, Inc. (PEI): 609.695.3739 (peikids.org)

“Adults are just outdated children.”

— Dr. Seuss

“There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul than the way in which it treats its children.”

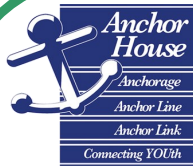
— Nelson Mandela, Former President of South Africa

“It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men.”

— Frederick Douglass, abolitionist and statesman



Connecting YOUth Newsletter



Group Calendar April 2017



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Happy 39th Anniversary Anchor House
2 Generation Change Film (Atlantic City) (9:30am-6pm)	3 Child Abuse Pre- vention Month Kickoff 1pm@ Shelter Wear Blue!!!!	4	5 YAC meeting 4:30 pm Outreach 899 S Broad	6	7	8
9	10 YAC assist CAP Bookmark project 5:30 pm	11	12 YAC Group Cindy Liccardo (Private Investi- gator) Career Presentation 4:30	13	14	15 YAC
16	17 YAC Meeting 4:30 pm @ Anchorage 480 Centre	18	19	20 YAC Bonner Trivia Game Night 4-6 pm	21	22
23	24	25 F. Stokes Business owner Career Present 740 Greenwood 5 pm	26	27	28 Stand Against Racism Outreach 899 S Broad 2-4 pm	29 Community Service
30	31					

**** Groups will meet at the address locations indicated ****