

Press Release

"Don't look Away - Become the Way"

For Immediate Release

April is Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness month, and to remember the thousands of children who are victims of Abuse/Neglect, Blue Sunday is joining with others for a day of prayer on April 30th, 2017.

This year's annual call for prayer is titled; *"Don't look Away - Become the Way"*.

Who: Blue Sunday, the Faith Based Community and Children's Advocacy Groups.

What: A day of prayer for abused and neglected children.

Where: Faith Based locations nation wide.

When: Sunday, April 30th 2017, (times vary)

Why: To remember the thousands of child victims nationwide.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. It began when a report about abused and neglected children caught the attention and heart of President, Ronald Reagan. *"Now, Therefore, I, Ronald Reagan, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the month of April, 1983 as "National Child Abuse Prevention Month. Sadly since the first Child Abuse Prevention Month, the number of abused children has grown from half a million children to over 6 million new reports of abuse along with 1600+ children dying annually as a result of their abuse. (These numbers do not include missing or exploited children through trafficking.)"*

An epidemic of this magnitude requires that we all must face the hard facts:

- 1 in 4 girls and 1 in 6 boys will be sexually abused before their 18th birthday.
- Most victims are harmed or die at the hands of family members.
- Most incidents are drug and alcohol related.
- It is in every community.
- Within 1 year of aging out of the foster care system, 60% of victims are homeless, in jail or dead.

Faith Community you are the single most untapped resource for hurt children and broken families. This battle cannot be won without you. You hold the keys to what is missing for victims. You may have many resources such as empty buildings for parenting classes, volunteers, finances, but more importantly you hold the key that victims need... hope. Hope produces faith and faith produces resilience.

How to pray for abused children on Blue Sunday: 1) Pray the children will be rescued 2) Pray they are put with caring people 3) Pray that their bodies can heal 4) Pray that their mind can heal 5) Pray they find hope.

Faith leaders please open your hearts and doors to child abuse prevention agencies in your cities that need your help. Invite them to your church on Blue Sunday, April 30th and pray for them as you pray for the victims.

Blue Sunday is always the last Sunday of April's Child Abuse Prevention Month activities. It's free. Nothing to join. Just register your church or ministry to pray for the victims of child abuse and for those who rescue them. Let's pray, educate ourselves, and volunteer until black and blue are just colors in a child's crayon box.

Blue Sunday Child Abuse Prevention Initiative is dedicated to helping communities reach out to abused children and to support those who rescue them. We are a faith based 501 C 3 nonprofit organization. To register and for free church bulletins, videos, and Happy Family handouts visit us at www.bluesunday.org

For more information:

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