

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: March 27, 2015
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1,800 Wisconsin Adults Prepare to Prevent Child Abuse and Neglect this April

Childcaring is proud to announce the kick-off of our fourth annual Small Change Makes a BIG Difference Teach-a-Thon; a statewide push for child abuse and neglect prevention trainings.

Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., (March 27, 2015) – Last year SFTA and Child Care Resource and Referral agencies, including Childcaring, trained over 1,600 parents, early childhood professionals, and community members in child abuse and neglect prevention. This year we invite adults across Wisconsin to help us top that number at 1,800, and to do their part to prevent child abuse and neglect by participating in our Small Change Makes a BIG Difference Teach-a-Thon.

"The goal of the Teach-a-Thon is to build awareness through trainings and information sharing and prepare adults to take action regarding child abuse and neglect prevention," said Kelly Borchardt, Childcaring Executive Director, "We know that early experiences set the stage for a child's life. By training more adults in strategies to prevent and put a stop to child abuse and neglect, we are setting more children up for success."

Childcaring is offering a variety of child abuse and neglect prevention trainings in April. These trainings include: Shaken Baby Syndrome Prevention training April 6 in Stevens Point. This training focuses on identification, prevention and the grave effects of Shaken Baby Syndrome. Another training being offered is Strengthening Families with Mandated Reporter training, April 7, in Stevens Point. This initiative is a strength-based approach to preventing child abuse and neglect. Also, Stewards of Children, Darkness to Light with Mandated Reporter, April 17 in Medford –or- April 22 in Antigo. Stewards of Children is a sexual abuse prevention training program that educates adults to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse. There is a small fee to attend each of these trainings. Please contact Childcaring for more information or to register for one of these opportunities.

Although there has been a 5.5 percent drop overall in Child Protective Services (CPS) maltreatment reports in the past ten years, 4,886 Wisconsin children were still known victims of maltreatment in 2013, according to the most recent Department of Children and Families Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect report. The need for child abuse and neglect prevention knowledge and support is still very much present in Wisconsin, and everyone plays a role.

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Childcaring Office Locations

Wisconsin Rapids Office ••• 1107 West Grand Avenue, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495 **p)** 715.423.4114 **f)** 715.423.2444

Merrill Office ••• 407 West Main Street, Merrill, WI 54452 **p)** 715.539.9779 **f)** 715.539.9771

w) www.childcaring.org **e)** info@childcaring.org **p)** 800.628.8534 ••• Find Us On Facebook: www.facebook.com/ChildcaringInc

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“Whether you are a parent, a caregiver, a hospital worker, a police officer, or even the teller at a bank, you can in some way be a part of child abuse and neglect prevention,” emphasized Micki Krueger, Childcaring Assistant Director, “We all have a child that touches our lives either directly or indirectly. The more adults that

know how to look for, prevent, and safely react to the signs of child abuse and neglect, the more children have the chance to lead healthy, happy lives.”

Teach-a-Thon trainings are held throughout Wisconsin throughout the month of April, in honor of National Child Abuse Prevention Month. Trainings are open to the public and are typically low cost or free. Those interested in participating in upcoming Teach-a-Thon trainings in their area should [contact their local CCR&R](#) or stay tuned to the SFTA Teach-a-Thon [web page](#). If you are interested in hosting a training at your Wisconsin business or organization, please e-mail info@childcaring.org or call Childcaring directly at 1-800-628-8534. If you are interested in contributing towards SFTA’s work on behalf of Wisconsin children and families please visit the Supporting Families Together [invest webpage](#).

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About Childcaring

Childcaring is your local resource and referral agency dedicated to providing quality child care information, and partnering with parents, care providers, business leaders, and community organizations to make quality care available to Central Wisconsin families in Adams, Clark, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Marquette, Portage, Taylor, Waushara, and Wood counties. To learn more about Childcaring visit: www.childcaring.org

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