



GFWC DOMINION WOMAN'S CLUB

Bridging Gaps in the Community
www.dominionwomansclub.org



For immediate release

Contact: Stephanie Sturges
President, Dominion Woman's Club
stephsturges@gmail.com, 703.732.8539

Child Abuse Prevention Month April 2011

Commemorating National Child Abuse Prevention Month, the GFWC Dominion Woman's Club (DWC) will be dedicating a Pinwheels for Prevention Garden at the Hylton Performing Arts Center on April 7, 2011 at 11:00 a.m. DWC, a member of General Federation of Women's Clubs of Virginia, is partnering with [Prevent Child Abuse Virginia](http://www.preventchildabusevirginia.org) and its statewide network of affiliates to prevent child abuse and neglect. DWC also supports CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates for children) of Greater Prince William, which provides services to the more than 500 children and youth each year, providing specially trained volunteers from the community to help protect some of our most vulnerable citizens.

Dominion Woman's Club is one of many organizations across the state joining with the Prevent Child Abuse Virginia to raise awareness about the need to better serve children and families. The pinwheel is the national symbol of child abuse prevention and pinwheel gardens are being planted all across the state as an emblem of healthy and happy childhoods. According to GFWC Dominion Woman's Club President, Stephanie Sturges, "It is critical for our community to keep an open dialogue with these sensitive issues. It affects all our neighborhoods, and there are no economic boundaries to abuse. Organizations like Prevent Child Abuse Virginia focus on primary prevention for at risk families through important programs such as Healthy Families. CASA's mission is to provide a voice in court for every abused and neglected child so that they might have an opportunity for a safe and permanent home, and provides special advocates to those who have been abused, neglected and abandoned."

Last year in Virginia, 6,234 children were found to be victims in founded cases of abuse and neglect. Communities across the Commonwealth must continue to join forces to battle this public health issue.

Dominion Woman's Club invites local residents to support National Child Abuse Prevention Month by attending the dedication and planting a pinwheel, visit Prevent Child Abuse Virginia at www.PCAV.org, attend a local fundraising event, or contact the Dominion Woman's Club for more information at www.dominionwomansclub.org.