



Make a Difference in Your Community



The following ways include simple ways to build a strong environment that will allow children to grow into healthy, productive citizens who will in turn give back to communities.

Talk to your neighbors

Be willing to look out for one another's children. Encourage a supportive spirit among parents in your community.

Mentor a new parent in your neighborhood

Sometimes families go from receiving a lot of support when a baby first arrives to getting little or no support just a few months later. This can leave a parent feeling overwhelmed. Check in often with a new parent. Sometimes just holding or changing the baby will allow a new mom or dad to finish an errand or take a few minutes for themselves.

Be a friend to the parents that you know

Ask how their children are doing. Ask them how they are doing! If a parent seems to be struggling, offer to baby-sit, run errands or lend a friendly ear. Remind them that raising kids is a difficult job.

Keep your neighbors safe

Offer to pick up your neighbors mail when they are out of town and let them know you can keep an eye on their home. When street lights burn out, report the outage to the city to avoid dark places in your neighborhood.

Distribute materials to educate and support families in public places

Parenting is tough work! It is important to let families know that you support the love, devotion and healthy discipline they offer their children. It's also important to offer information and tips about the developmental milestones.

Plant a pinwheel garden in a community gathering place

Pinwheels are a sign of happy, carefree childhoods; the kind that every kid deserves to experience. Host a public event to launch the garden. Take photos and send them to your local newspaper along with a statement of your support.

Host an event for children

Inspire them to color pinwheels and post them in a public place. Arrange for the activity to be lead by a childcare provider, allowing parents a break and the chance to enjoy conversation with other adults.

Be a good role model

Parents are always looking for new parenting techniques and you can help provide them by setting a good example.

Be active in your community

Developing playgroups for new families at community centers, libraries or schools ultimately contributes to the well-being of children.

Call or write your elected officials

Ask your representatives to support funding and legislative initiatives for parent support and child abuse prevention programs.