How big is the problem of child abuse and neglect in the U.S.?

- More than 3 million children are reported as abused and neglected each year
- More than 750,000 children are determined to be abused or neglected annually
- More than 4 children die every day as a result of child abuse and neglect
  - Nearly 80% of these are children younger than 4 years of age
  - Nearly 50% of these children are younger than 1 year of age
- 80% of young adults who were abused as children meet the diagnostic criteria for at least one psychiatric disorder by the age 21
- Child maltreatment occurs across socio-economic, religious, cultural, racial, and ethnic groups
- Most professionals agree that much more abuse and neglect occurs than is ever reported
Child abuse is a community issue

Child abuse and neglect hurts more than our children and families, it hurts our entire community.

The most immediate victims are children and families. Children suffer physical and emotional injuries, and parents suffer remorse and regret.

A greater problem develops as the cycle of violence impacts the community. Childhood abuse is a significant predictor for juvenile delinquency, early pregnancy, substance abuse, mental health issues, and adult criminal activity.

**Child abuse and neglect hurts our entire community.**

The National Exchange Club strives to make a difference in the lives of children.


The first center opened in 1981, two years after the adoption of child abuse prevention as Exchange’s National Project. There are now more than 65 Exchange CAP Centers located across the country.

Exchange is a service organization with clubs throughout the United States and Puerto Rico. Exchange Clubs strive to make a difference in the lives of children, families and communities through the prevention of child abuse and services dedicated to youth, communities and country.

Exchange CAP Centers are established by Exchange Clubs working to prevent child abuse in their communities. Most centers have a variety of programming that provide support to children and families, but the signature program in all centers is the Exchange Parent Aide Program.

The Exchange Parent Aide Program provides support and education to parents. The staff meet with families in their homes and are sources of information, referrals, encouragement and concern during stressful and challenging times.

The Exchange Parent Aide Program has received national attention* for its effectiveness in fostering positive outcomes and strengthening families.

* The program has been cited in the *Journal of Child Abuse and Neglect* and lives on the California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse.