

The Child Abuse Prevention Council is affiliated with the PCA Iowa (Prevent Child Abuse Iowa). Prevent Child Abuse Iowa works to end child abuse in three major ways:

- 1. It organizes and directs two statewide child abuse prevention programs, the Iowa Child Abuse Prevention Program (ICAPP) and the Young Parent Support and Parent Education grants.**
- 2. It serves as a resource on child abuse and its prevention for public officials, professionals, the media, and the general Iowa public.**
- 3. It advocates strongly for laws, policies, and programs that prevent child abuse. Each fall PCA Iowa produces a Legislative Agenda, which directs its efforts during the legislative session. It also produces periodic updates on pending legislative activity relevant to child abuse prevention efforts.**

For more information on the Prevent Child Abuse-Iowa Program  
Call :  
800-237-1815 or 515-244-2200  
[www.pcaiowa.org](http://www.pcaiowa.org)

*What to say (or do) when parents get upset with their children in public...*

- ▶ Strike up a conversation with the adult. See if you can re-direct his/her attention away from the child.
- ▶ “My child used to get upset like that.” Can be a helpful response to reassure a parent.
- ▶ Find something positive to say about the child to the parent. “Your child is beautiful,” or “What pretty hair she has.”
- ▶ Praise child and/or parent at first opportunity.
- ▶ If you are concerned about the physical safety of the child, call 911 for help.

# North Iowa Child Abuse Prevention Council



**For Information call:**

United Way of North  
Central Iowa  
1-641-423-1774  
or  
Mitchell Co. HHC  
Public Health  
1-641-832-3502  
or go to

[www.unitedwaynci.org](http://www.unitedwaynci.org)

## The Child Abuse Prevention Council

is made of members from the following organizations:

CASA  
Catholic Charities No. IA  
Cerro Gordo Co. Attorney's Office  
Charlie Brown Child Care  
Crisis Intervention Service  
Department of Human Services  
Francis Lauer Youth Services  
Mercy Medical Center of No. IA  
Mitchell Co. HHC/Public Health  
Parents United of North Central IA  
United Way of North Central IA  
Winnebago Co. Public Health  
Worth Co. Public Health  
Exchange Club

Our membership *is not* limited to these organizations and we welcome anyone interested in helping us to achieve  
Our Mission—  
“To end child abuse in the entire state of Iowa.”

The Child Abuse Prevention Council meets quarterly in the Muse Norris Conference center, 600 1st St. NW, Mason City, IA. If you are interested in becoming a part of our council and making a difference in the North Iowa area we would like to have you attend our meetings. For local information call United Way 1-641-423-1774 to request times & dates of meetings.

The Child Abuse Council provides support for the following programs:

### Crisis Child Care

**Crisis Child Care for up to 72 hours at no cost is now available to parents who are feeling frustrated with their children and are afraid they might lose control.**

#### **Call:**

**The Mercy Family Health Line  
422-7777 OR 1-800-468-0050**

for referral regarding

#### **Crisis Childcare**

*A confidential service not associated with  
Dept. of Human Services (DHS)*

### Interview Room

**The Interview Room is provided and maintained by the council. The Interview Room is used for interviewing children who may be in a possible child abuse situation. The Interview Room is used by several organizations within the North Iowa Area.**

**Child Abuse Prevention Education  
Education to the North Iowa and surrounding areas through C.E.U.'s and public awareness programs.**

## What You Should Know About Reporting Child Abuse...

- ▶ Any concerned person may report child abuse
- ▶ Any report that indicates a child is in imminent danger will cause an investigation to be initiated by a Department of Human Services social worker within one hour. All other investigations will be initiated within 24 to 96 hours
- ▶ You do not have to give your name, but it can be beneficial
- ▶ If you do give your name, you may be requested to testify if the case goes to juvenile court
- ▶ Mandatory Reporters do give your name
- ▶ Persons who report child abuse in good faith are immune from civil or criminal liability
- ▶ It is important to note that child abuse can occur at all ages, including adolescence
- ▶ To report child abuse call:  
1-800-362-2178