**Child Abuse Prevention & Pinwheels**

April has been designated as Child Abuse Prevention Month since 1983. Research indicates the majority of child abuse cases result from conditions that can be prevented through community programs, systems, support and interventions. As such, the goal of Child Abuse Prevention Month is to recognize the importance of families and communities working together to strengthen families to prevent child abuse. To bring awareness about child abuse prevention, Prevent Child Abuse America introduced the Pinwheels for Prevention Program in 2008. The underlying premise of the Pinwheels for Prevention Program is that people respond positively to pinwheels, which represent childlike whimsy and lightheartedness and their vision for a world where all children grow up happy, healthy, and prepared to succeed in supportive families and communities. Pinwheels are a reminder that we all play a role in children’s lives.

On April 16th, CASAs and other community partners participated in the Pinwheels for Prevention Program by planting 100’s of pinwheels outside of the Family Court Building on the north side of Bonanza Road. By planting pinwheels on the lawns of local businesses and residences, the community rallies together to show solidarity in our commitment to keep children safe and free from abuse and neglect. I would like to thank our CASA volunteers, as well as all of our community partners, for participating in the Pinwheels for Prevention Program and taking community ownership to solving the problem of child abuse and neglect through prevention!