## **Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect During COVID 19**

## **Parents and Caregivers**

- If you are feeling stressed or isolated, stay in contact with friends and family members. Feeling connected to others will help reduce stress, anxiety and frustration.
- Keep yourself and your children occupied during quarantine. Visit
  <u>columbuslibrary.org</u> for a host of educational and entertainment
  resources available online. Take the family outside on a regular
  basis for exercise and fresh air.



Protecting Children by Strengthening Families

- Stay informed about what is happening, but manage your news intake and avoid outlets that promote fear or anxiety.
- If you feel that you or your children are in danger:
  - Call Franklin County Children Services' **24-hour Child Abuse Hotline at (614) 229-7000**.
  - Call the National Association of Domestic Violence hotline,
    1-800-799-SAFE or CHOICES for Victims of Domestic Violence at 614-224-HOME (4663)
  - Call 911 in cases of emergency or immediate threats
- If you feel overwhelmed, there is help available. Check out these resources:
  - COVID19 Resource Sheet from PreventChildAbuse.org
  - <u>Grand Families Fact Sheet from Generations United</u> (Lists links to resources for preventing exposure, activities for families and managing stress)
  - <u>Parent/Caregiver Guide to Help Families Cope with COVID19</u> (Lists tips for coping with anxiety and stress, hygiene and activities)

## For the Community

During this time of isolation, friends, family members and neighbors need to actively engage in preventing child abuse and neglect.

- Regularly check in with families who may be at risk
- Pay attention to <u>signs of abuse and neglect</u>
- Report suspected cases of child abuse and neglect by calling the 24-hour Child Abuse Hotline at (614) 229-7000