

DHS News

Newsletter of the Allegheny County
Department of Human Services



March 2019

Child Abuse Prevention Month efforts target youth

Every April, the Allegheny County Department of Human Services (DHS), in partnership with A Child's Place and other community organizations, conducts outreach activities to raise awareness around child abuse.

This year, the DHS Office of Community Relations (OCR) has created a bookmark and informational card aimed at students in Allegheny County. The materials outline abusive actions that a youth may have experienced from a parent or guardian such as shoving, screaming, touching in a sexual way, denying food or clothing, or locking youth out of their home, and offer a list of places youth can turn for help.

The Child Abuse Prevention Month bookmarks will be distributed in the teen section of local libraries and the cards will be provided to guidance counselors at local middle schools. A total of 4,000 bookmarks and cards will be distributed. Additional bookmarks may be requested by contacting Gerry Collier at gerry.collier@alleghenycounty.us.

Anyone suspecting the abuse or neglect of a youth under the age of 18 is encouraged to contact the Child Abuse Hotline at 412.473.2000 or 1.800.932.0313. This number is answered 24 hours a day, seven days a week.