



New York State  
Office of  
Children & Family  
Services

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# News

Public Information Office

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## STATE AND CITY OFFICIALS PARTICPATE IN “PINWHEELS FOR PREVENTION” PLANTING CEREMONY

*Hundreds of pinwheels planted in City of Rensselaer Park  
as part of Child Abuse Prevention Month*

*Money raised will directly benefit Rensselaer City Youth Programs*

Rensselaer, NY - In observance of April as Child Abuse Prevention Month, New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) Commissioner Gladys Carrión and City of Rensselaer Mayor Dan Dwyer today joined their respective employees in planting the city's first "Pinwheels for Prevention Garden" as a visible reminder that everyone has an important role in preventing child abuse and nurturing our community's children. This year's theme, "Promoting a Happy, Healthy Childhood in New York," was developed to highlight the important work across the state to prevent child abuse by providing positive support to families.

The Pinwheels for Prevention Garden, featuring more than 200 pinwheels, is located in Huyck Square at the corner of Third Avenue and Washington Street near the state headquarters for OCFS and City Hall. The Pinwheels for Prevention Garden will remain throughout the month. In the week leading up to the event, employees sold the pinwheels to raise money for the benefit City of Rensselaer youth programs.

In presenting Mayor Dwyer with a check for \$500, Commissioner Carrión noted, "Governor Cuomo proclaimed April as Child Abuse Prevention Month and in so doing, called upon 'all New Yorkers to join in this effort to make the safety, welfare, and well-being of precious children among the highest of our priorities.' Today we use the national symbol for child abuse prevention - the pinwheel - to remind us to transform our awareness of child abuse into action."

Mayor Dwyer said, "I am pleased to join Commissioner Carrión and the New York State Office of Children and Family Services at this special ceremony for Child Abuse Prevention Month. We all share the responsibility of preventing child abuse and spreading the message that we will not tolerate any form of abuse or neglect against children. The pinwheels we are planting today represent a visual reminder and I want to thank everyone who generously contributed to this effort which will benefit the City Youth Bureau."

The state Office of Children and Family Services, through the Child and Family Trust Fund and in partnership with [Prevent Child Abuse New York](#) and others supports family resource centers and home visiting programs to promote positive parent-child interaction. For more information visit: [ocfs.ny.gov](http://ocfs.ny.gov).