

**Mission:**

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



**Rick Scott**  
Governor

**Celeste Philip, MD, MPH**  
Surgeon General and Secretary

**Vision:** To be the **Healthiest State** in the Nation

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## FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH – FRANKLIN/GULF CELEBRATES PINWHEELS FOR PREVENTION®

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*Pinwheels remind us we all play a role in the prevention of child abuse and neglect*

**Apalachicola and Port St. Joe, Fla.** — April is Child Abuse Prevention Month and the Florida Department of Health in Franklin and Gulf have partnered with Prevent Child Abuse Florida to share the message that everyone can help great childhoods happen in their community.

What children learn through their early interactions becomes the foundation for all future development. Research shows that nurturing relationships and safe, secure environments improve brain development and child well-being.

“Working with our community partners, we are actively engaged in activities to strengthen families and neighborhoods to provide the optimal environment for healthy child development.” said Marsha Lindeman, Administrator for the Florida Department of Health in Franklin and Gulf Counties. “We are proud to participate in the Pinwheels for Prevention campaign to promote great childhoods.”

The Pinwheels are the national symbol of child abuse prevention and a visible reminder of the safe, happy and healthy childhoods that all children deserve. Each year, advocates and volunteers plant pinwheel gardens in recognition of Child Abuse Prevention Month, a national month dedicated to recognizing the ways that people can get involved in the healthy development of children. The campaign has distributed more than 4 million pinwheels nationwide since 2008.

**About the Florida Department of Health**

The department, nationally accredited by the [Public Health Accreditation Board](#), works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.

Follow us on Twitter at [@HealthyFla](#) and on [Facebook](#). For more information about the Florida Department of Health please visit [www.FloridaHealth.gov](http://www.FloridaHealth.gov).

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