

Mills County Child Abuse Prevention Council

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January 18, 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TAX SEASON PROVIDES IOWANS GIVING OPPORTUNITY

Taxpayers Donate Portion of State Refund to End Child Abuse

Glenwood, IA – The holiday season is typically considered a time for giving, but tax season leaves many Iowans with a little extra cash in their pockets. The state income tax check off provides taxpayers an opportunity to donate a portion of their refund to preventing child abuse in local communities. Those who don't receive a refund can still contribute to the cause by making a donation upon filing.

In Mills County, the Child Abuse Prevention Council receives funds from the check off child abuse campaign. Mills County Child Abuse Prevention Council offers programming, which is centered on providing local parents with through multiple services including the following: Mills Co. Public Health's Parents as Teachers, an in-home education program to available to all families with children up to age 5 and The NEST – an incentive based education program for parents of children up through age 2 providing needed education and supplies to Mills County families; Partners in Prevention's Sexual Abuse Prevention Classes to students in area elementary schools. These programs provide education and support to Mills County families to decrease child abuse for children.

"We are fortunate to have well-developed services, such as those offered by the Mills County Child Abuse Prevention Council, which reduce the risk of child abuse," stated Steve Scott, Executive Director of Prevent Child Abuse Iowa. "Families in Iowa have limited access to these services due to funding constraints. The check off child abuse campaign is an important way to expand services in our communities," explained Scott.

Every two years, the Iowa Legislature determines the four beneficiaries of the income tax check off, which are highlighted on the state income tax forms. The Iowa Child Abuse Prevention Program is responsible for disseminating funds to local organizations. The program will be an eligible recipient of the funds through 2012.

To access state income tax forms, visit the Iowa Department of Revenue's website at <http://www.state.ia.us/tax/index.html>. Or, to learn more about the child abuse check off, please direct your attention to www.checkoffchildabuseiowa.org.

ABOUT THE IOWA CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAM

In 1982, the Iowa Legislature established the Iowa Child Abuse Prevention Program (ICAPP). This program receives federal and state funding to support child abuse prevention services throughout the state. Prevent Child Abuse Iowa administers the program, which funds services such as education, support, respite child care and sexual abuse prevention. The program benefits more than 15,000 parents and 60,000 children in approximately 90 counties each year.

