



Madison County Employees Raise Money and Awareness

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. On April 4, 2014, Madison County employees joined in the nationwide “Pinwheels for Prevention” awareness mission. For \$5 each, employees purchased pinwheels and “planted” them in the garden outside of the County Office Building.



The total amount raised was \$925, which will be donated to Liberty Resources Domestic Violence Program to purchase age-appropriate literature so families have resources to end domestic violence in their community. Domestic violence is a form of child maltreatment – it can cause emotional and sometimes physical abuse to children.

Guest speakers culminated the event at 3:00 that day. County Administrator Mark Scimone thanked employees for their participation and generosity. Health and Human Services Committee Chairman

Alexander Stepanski talked about the good work of the Department of Social Services Children’s Services staff. Deputy Commissioner for Family Services Melissa Maine and Liberty Resources Domestic Violence Program Supervisor Tammy Van Epps relayed the importance of community involvement in preventing abuse.



Madison County Department of Social Services receives an average of 1,500 child abuse reports a year, with 29 percent (about 400 cases) being substantiated. The hope is that the pinwheels will remind and compel the community to lend a hand to struggling families. There is a need for community prevention.