**WAYS YOU CAN CHANGE A CHILD’S LIFE**

**BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR.** Everyone in your neighborhood can play a part in making sure that kids are safe and healthy. You can reach out to help your neighbors. If you believe a child in being abused or neglected by a parent or caregiver, make a confidential call to the Child Protective Services Hotline at 888-SOS-CHILD or 888-767-2445. Your call could get the family the help they need – and could save a child’s life.

**BE A VOICE.** Speak up for kids wherever you are – in your workplace, your faith congregation, your social networks and your community activities. Take every opportunity to remind people – especially the Governor and your state legislators – that children are your top priority. Tell candidates that you won’t support them if they don’t support budgets and policies to protect children, like quality education and child care, and a strong and effective Child Protective Services.

**BE A VOLUNTEER.** Help out at your local school or child care center. Spend time with children at a crisis shelter. Become a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) and speak up for abused and neglected children through the court process (602-452-3407 or www.azcasa.org). Volunteer one day a month at the Foster Care Review Board and help children to have a safe, forever home more quickly (602-452-3400 or www.azfcrb.org.)

**CONNECT WITH CHILDREN’S ACTION ALLIANCE.** Children’s Action Alliance (CAA) is the only statewide child welfare advocacy organization in Arizona. CAA is an independent voice for Arizona children at the state capitol and in the community (602-266-0707 or www.azchildren.org).

**BE A MENTOR.** Being a mentor for a foster child is a unique and rewarding opportunity to be a positive role model and give a child hope for the future. (www.arizonansforchildren.org in Maricopa County, www.inmyshoesinc.org in Pima County, and www.arizonaschildren.org for all other Arizona regions).

**BE A DONOR.** Help prevent child abuse and neglect with strong community networks like after-school programs and parent support. Donate to the Arizona Friends of Foster Children Foundation who help provide opportunities for foster children such as college scholarships, tutoring and extracurricular activities (602-252-9445 or www.affc.org).

**BE A FOSTER PARENT.** Provide a temporary loving, safe and stable home to a child who has suffered from abuse or neglect. Specialized training, financial support and child care are available to help support the children placed in your care – you don’t have to be wealthy or own your own home! Foster parents can be single, married, divorced or widowed. (877-Kids-NeedU (1-877-543-7633) or www.azkidsneedu.gov).

**BE AN ADOPTIVE PARENT.** Provide a permanent loving family to a child in foster care through adoption. Training and financial support are available. (877-Kids-NeedU (1-877-543-7633) or www.azkidsneedu.gov).

**BUY THE "IT SHOULDN’T HURT TO BE A CHILD" LICENSE PLATE.** Next time you renew your vehicle registration, purchase the Child Abuse Prevention License Plate for just $25. Proceeds are used to support child abuse prevention programs throughout the state and give you a chance to help save Arizona’s children.