

NEWS RELEASE

R. Andrew Murray
District Attorney

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DA's Office helps launch Child Abuse Awareness & Prevention Month

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Building on efforts to prevent child abuse in the community, the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Office is among a number of government, nonprofit and educational organizations working together during April for Child Abuse Awareness & Prevention Month.

"Every child deserves to be safe, healthy and nurtured, and we need everyone in our community to be willing and ready to take a stand when children need protection," says Mecklenburg County District Attorney Andrew Murray.

On Thursday, prosecutors were on hand alongside Mecklenburg County Commissioner Trevor Fuller, County Manager Dena Diorio and Department of Social Services Director Peggy Eagan to assist in the planting of pinwheels outside the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center. Pinwheels are used as a symbol of child abuse awareness in North Carolina and across the country.

The Mecklenburg County Child Abuse Awareness & Prevention Month Committee, which is made up of representatives from participating organizations, has planned public outreach and lessons for schoolchildren this month. This is the second year the DA's Office has participated in the campaign to make local residents aware of their legal responsibility to report abuse.

According to North Carolina law ([§ 7B-301](#)), any person who has cause to suspect that a child is being abused or neglected shall report the abuse or neglect to the proper authorities.

In Mecklenburg County, those who suspect child abuse or neglect should call police or the county's 24-hour child abuse and neglect hotline at 704-336-CARE (2273).

For more information about child abuse awareness efforts in Mecklenburg County, visit www.facebook.com/MecklenburgChildAbuseAwareness.

Note: For more information about the District Attorney's Office, visit www.charmeckda.com. For updates and other information, "like" the DA's Office on Facebook at www.facebook.com/charmeckda and follow us on Twitter: @CharMeckDA.



Prosecutors helped plant pinwheels for child abuse awareness outside the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center.

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