Resolution 11.14.02
Resolution on the Co-occurrence of Domestic Violence and Child Abuse/Neglect

Whereas, 30 to 60 percent of children from homes where domestic abuse is present are also victims of abuse themselves.¹

Whereas, parents who are stressed and burdened by being victimized are also at increased risk of neglectful or abusive parenting.²

Whereas, witnessing domestic violence can cause serious harm to psychological, cognitive, social, behavioral and emotional development, including but not limited to fearfulness, sleeplessness, anxiety, withdrawal, depression, and aggression.³

Whereas, domestic violence constitutes the single, greatest precursor for child maltreatment fatalities.⁴

Therefore, be it resolved, that PCA America supports:

- Collaboration among child abuse and domestic violence prevention organizations to address and prevent both child abuse and domestic violence.
- Designing and implementing public education campaigns about the co-occurrence and compound risk of domestic violence and child abuse and neglect.
- Developing comprehensive, community-based prevention and intervention programs that seek to prevent family violence and support parents in providing a nurturing, safe, and stable home environment for healthy child development.
- Teaching children and adolescents in school-based programs to address conflict resolution, communication and anger management.
- Offering resources, such as parent education and home visiting programs, for parents living in domestic violence shelters and those transitioning from abusive relationships.
- Promoting legislative efforts that increase funding and support cross-training and collaboration among child protection, domestic violence and social service agencies as well as juvenile, family and criminal court systems.