



WE ARE PREVENT CHILD ABUSE AMERICA.

TOGETHER, WE CAN PREVENT CHILD ABUSE AMERICA... BECAUSE CHILDHOOD LASTS A LIFETIME

Prevent Child Abuse America (PCA America) supports children and families, creating conditions to prevent trauma.

PCA America and the NBA have partnered for more than 20 years, united by our shared mission to create positive childhood experiences through mentoring, youth sports, and a commitment to helping all families thrive.

Healthy children become healthier, happier adults. Guided by strong evidence, PCA America drives better outcomes for kids through community-based programs and resources, advocacy for federal, state, local and corporate family-friendly policies, and building public awareness and action. Preventing child abuse and neglect seems BIG, but #PreventionIsPossible, with partners like you.

RESOURCES FOR COACHES

Children thrive when they have caring, trusted adults in their lives. For some children, a coach may be the most caring and trusted adult in their life. The actions you take, the things you say, and the way you make kids feel will have a profound impact on their overall development.



**FIND THIS INFO
SHEET ONLINE!**

Why is your role important as a coach?

Many children are faced with what is known as “Adverse Childhood Experiences” (ACE). These are experiences such as child abuse, neglect, and intimate partner violence/domestic violence or other household dysfunctions. It is estimated that upwards of 60% of children will face 1 ACE before their 18th birthday while 15% will face 4 or more. That means:

- **On a team of 18 children, approximately 11 will have faced 1 ACE and 3 will have faced 4 or more.**

Children who experience ACEs are at increased risk of mental health issues (e.g., depression, anxiety), behavioral problems (e.g., acting out), and physical health problems (e.g., drug use, heart disease). That means:

- **As a coach, you may see behaviors and actions that are associated with ACEs occurring at home.**

As a coach, you can provide children with Positive Childhood Experiences, which are proven to positively influence child development—even for children experiencing adversity. Your role as coach can have positive impact for kids—all the way into adulthood.

If you have concerns about a child or a family, there are things you can do.

1. Talk to the child or family to better understand what their needs are. If you are looking for support resources in your community, please click here.
2. If you have concerns that a child is being abused or neglected, fulfill your duty as a mandatory reporter by reporting the concern to child protective services in your state.



How the child welfare system works:



General info on mandatory reporting:



General info on failure to report:



State child abuse and neglect reporting numbers:



PCA America and its network want to help coaches and others in these efforts. Learn more about Prevent Child Abuse America and find a local chapter in your state.



A great resource for coaches is the US Center for Safe Sport. Safe Sport provides trainings and education that are geared specifically to the sporting context.

