



# WESTPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT

50 Jesup Road

Westport, Connecticut 06880-4385

Telephone: 203-341-6000 Fax: 203-341-6092

Foti Koskinas  
Chief of Police

## **PRESS RELEASE**

In observance of National Child Abuse Prevention month in April, the Westport Police Department and The Human Services Council's Child Advocacy Center, Children's Connection, are partnering up to plant a "pinwheel garden" on April 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:00AM at police headquarters, 50 Jesup Road. Pinwheel gardens are used nationwide during the month of April to bring heightened awareness to child abuse prevention and symbolize the joy of childhood. April 5<sup>th</sup> is also "Wear Blue For Child Abuse Day"; help us raise awareness by wearing blue and posting photos on your favorite social media with the hashtags - #wearblue, #childabuseprevention and #humanservicesct!

Child abuse and neglect happen every day in every neighborhood. No community is immune. Each day, five children die unnecessarily from child abuse related causes. Amongst others, parental drug and alcohol abuse are major child abuse risk factors.

For information on how to report suspected child abuse and/or neglect, please visit the State of Connecticut Department of Children and Families website <https://portal.ct.gov/dcf>

or call **800-842-2288**.

Children's Connection, a nationally accredited Children's Advocacy Center that works with public and private resources to identify, substantiate, and treat cases of sexual and severe physical abuse and provides community education on the topic. "We are really excited to be able to raise awareness about this important issue with our partners at the Westport Police



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Department who we have the honor of working with every day.” said Kari Pesavento, Director of Children’s Connection. If you would like more information about Children’s Connection or the work that we do surrounding child abuse and neglect, please contact Kari at (203) 849-1111 or visit [www.hscct.org](http://www.hscct.org).

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Contact: Det. Sgt. Jill Ruggiero**

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