

# April: National Child Abuse Prevention Month

## Did you know?

*Last year in South Dakota*

- 1,353 children were victims of abuse or neglect
- 1,407 children resided in foster or kinship care, and were under the court's jurisdiction
- Most children are not allowed in court and do not have an advocate to speak for them in court.

**LIVE UNITED**

**United  
Way**



## United Way Partnerships:

- *Southeast CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) promotes and protects the best interest of abused and neglected children involved in the court system in Yankton County.*
- *Last year, Southeast CASA served over 45 local children in the court system who were the victims of child abuse and neglect, through the assistance of 25 CASA volunteers.*
- *Research shows that children with a CASA volunteer spend 7.5 months less in foster care, experience fewer out of home placements, and have significantly improved educational performance.*



**“It should not hurt to be a child.”**

## Your Contributions Help People Like:

*David, a newborn child, who was born with methamphetamine in his system. David was removed from his mother's custody due to her methamphetamine use while she was pregnant.*

*David struggled with weight gain, growth and developmental delays. David was considered a high risk child. David was able to have an advocate present in court to be his voice. Because David had great support and recommendations from his CASA Volunteer, he was adopted by a loving family and his development is now on track.*

