April is Child Abuse Prevention Month, a time for our Team Patrick-Cape community to come together to build caring connections, supportive environments, and positive experiences for our future generation of parents, leaders, and community members.

During the month of April, the 45 SW Violence Prevention Office and Family Advocacy are facilitating efforts to increase awareness about child and family well-being as well as opportunities to work together to support abused and neglected children in need (see Page 2).

Be a connection for our children and families during National Child Abuse Prevention Month and beyond!

The 45 SW Violence Prevention Office is the POC for this article.
National Child Abuse Prevention Month Events

- **1-30 Apr** - Collecting donated items for “The Haven for Children” (a therapeutic shelter care for children 0-18 years old who have been removed from their homes due to abuse/maltreatment). Collection boxes are located outside of the 45 SW Violence Prevention Office (Bldg 423, Rm S229) and all First Shirts offices. Below is the needs and wish list. *Dropping off the smallest new item means everything to a child who has been placed at the shelter with nothing.*

- If you are interested in making a monetary donation for a meal order for the “The Haven for Children”, please reach out to The Violence Prevention Office at susan.alexander@spaceforce.mil for more info.

**Needs and Wish List:**

- Toothpaste, kids mouthwash, and toothbrushes
- Baby lotion and baby wipes
- Girls underwear size 6-16,
- Girls pajamas sizes 8-16
- Girls white socks for shoe sizes kids 12—Women’s size 5
- Cereal and snack items (goldfish, pretzels, raisins, etc.)
- Gift certificates to McDonalds, Taco Bell, Burger King, the movies or Walmart
- Boy’s pajamas 8-18
- Hairbrushes, combs, shampoo & conditioner
- Boy’s underwear/boxers size 6-18
- Boy’s white socks for shoe sizes kids 12 — mens size 10

*Together... we can shine a light in our community help promote positive child and family well-being!*

If you suspect child abuse and neglect, the law requires you to report it at 1-800-962-2873 or [https://reportabuse.dcf.state.fl.us/](https://reportabuse.dcf.state.fl.us/). The following resources are available to help:

- Family Advocacy at 494-8171
- Childhelp National Child Abuse Hotline at 1-800-422-4453
- If immediate and serious danger, call 911.