



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Supporting Families Together Association (SFTA)

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**Over 1900 WI Adults Trained to Prevent Child Abuse and Neglect**

*Supporting Families Together Association (SFTA), and participating member Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R) agencies and Family Resource Centers (FRC), are proud to have trained over 1,900 WI adults in child abuse and neglect prevention through the 2017 Small Change Makes a BIG Difference Teach-a-Thon.*

**MADISON** – Each April SFTA leads the push to train as many Wisconsin adults as possible in child abuse and neglect prevention, with SFTA staff and board and participating SFTA member agencies. Together this April we trained over 1900 WI adults in child abuse and neglect prevention through 132 trainings across the state. This was the sixth year running for the Teach-a-Thon, and over those 6 years we have collectively trained approximately 10,000 WI adults in child abuse and neglect prevention who may not have otherwise had access to these resources.

"Research shows that knowing you have supports if needed, having a basic knowledge of your child's development, and learning skills to cope with strong emotions as a parent or caregiver can help prevent an environment where child abuse and neglect occurs," said Jill Hoiting, Co-Director of Programs & External Relations at SFTA. "The trainings that we highlight each April and provide year-round provide parents and caregivers with these resources, and direct them to available community connections if they need support beyond these trainings."

The Small Change Makes a BIG Difference Teach-a-Thon is held annually in the month of April to coincide with National Child Abuse Prevention month. Trainings within the Teach-a-Thon are specifically targeted to support parents, child care providers, and community members in preventing child abuse and neglect. While these trainings are emphasized during the Teach-a-Thon, they are held by SFTA staff and member agency staff throughout the year and can be found on [the training calendar located on the SFTA website](#).

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Supporting Families Together Association (SFTA) is a non-profit organization funded by public and private entities to support and implement a variety of early childhood focused programs and services. As Wisconsin's statewide member association for organizations and individuals committed to making every early childhood a great one, we envision an environment in which all children have the opportunity to reach their highest potential and all adults understand their role and responsibilities to children. Learn more about SFTA at [www.supportingfamiliesaltogether.org](http://www.supportingfamiliesaltogether.org).