

Prevent Child Abuse Indiana Legislative Subcommittee Guide

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Finding Elected Officials for Your Area

Find at: <https://iga.in.gov/legislative/2024/legislators/>

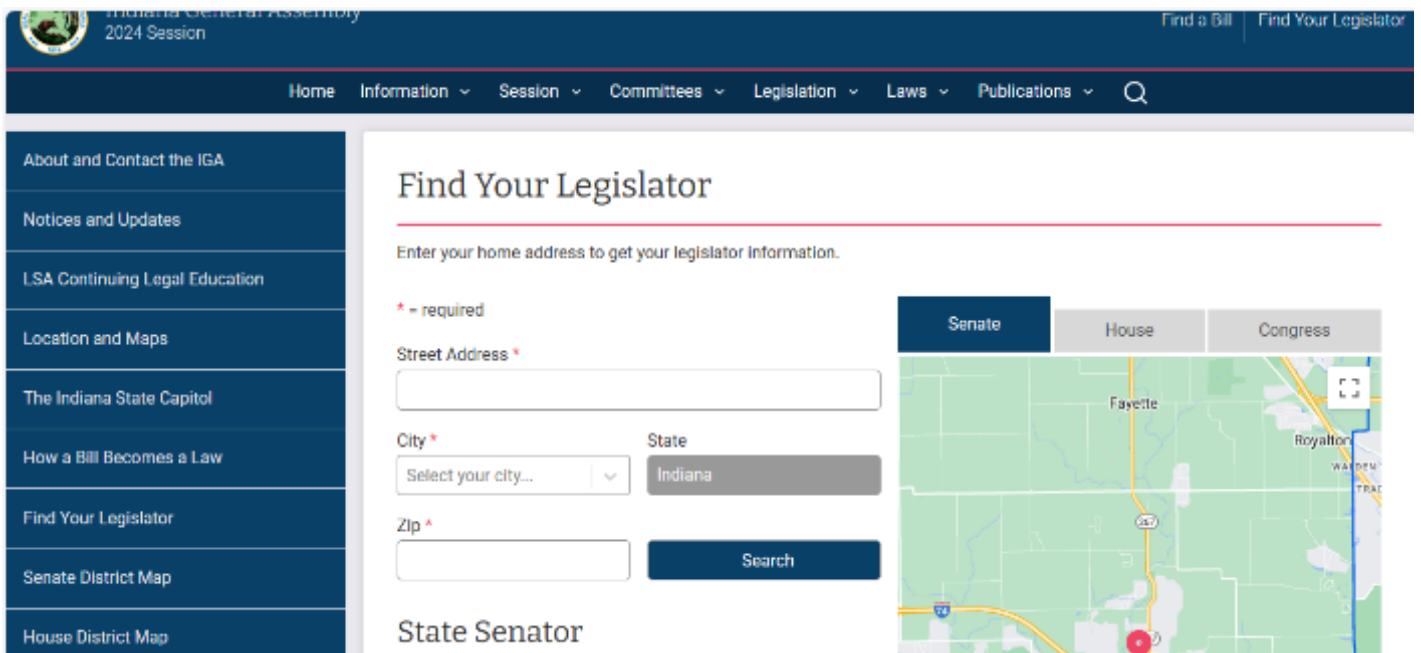
Steps:

1. Navigate to the IGA website
2. Click on the “Legislation” tab
3. Click “By Legislator”

To find according to district: <https://iga.in.gov/information/find-legislators>

1. Go to the “Information Tab”
2. Click on “District Information”
3. Select “Find Your Legislator”
4. Can choose Senate, House, or Congress
5. Put in the Address of where you reside

*(For PCAIN address- State Sen. Greg Taylor, State Rep. Gregory Porter)



The screenshot shows the 'Find Your Legislator' page on the Indiana General Assembly website. The page has a dark blue header with the text 'Indiana General Assembly 2024 Session' and navigation links for 'Find a Bill' and 'Find Your Legislator'. Below the header is a navigation menu with links for Home, Information, Session, Committees, Legislation, Laws, and Publications. A search icon is also present. On the left side, there is a vertical menu with links for 'About and Contact the IGA', 'Notices and Updates', 'LSA Continuing Legal Education', 'Location and Maps', 'The Indiana State Capitol', 'How a Bill Becomes a Law', 'Find Your Legislator', 'Senate District Map', and 'House District Map'. The main content area is titled 'Find Your Legislator' and contains the instruction 'Enter your home address to get your legislator information.' Below this, there are input fields for 'Street Address *', 'City *', 'State' (a dropdown menu currently showing 'Indiana'), and 'Zip *'. A 'Search' button is located to the right of the 'Zip' field. To the right of the form is a map showing a location in Fayette, Indiana, with a red pin. Above the map are three tabs: 'Senate' (selected), 'House', and 'Congress'. The text 'State Senator' is visible at the bottom left of the map area.

Tips for Meeting with Legislators

Organizing the Meeting

- Professionally introduce yourself and provide background on the organization you work for.
- Request your meeting in writing and follow up with a phone call.
 - Make an appointment through the secretary or scheduler.
 - Suggest dates and times that will work for *you*.
 - When presenting a topic of interest, you want to feel prepared and not rushed.
- Inform the legislator and/or secretary of the issue and legislation (bill number) you wish to discuss.

Preparing for the Meeting

- Decide who you would like to attend this meeting but keep it small.
 - ACLU suggests keeping it less than 5 individuals.
 - Bring individuals who represent different groups that have an interest in the legislation you are looking to discuss.
 - Ex: Healthy Kids and Families, The Villages, multiple PCAIN members, schoolteachers, etc.
 - Agree on talking points between members. The argument needs to be strong and supported. If there is a topic that is causing disagreements or issues between members, it is recommended to leave this topic out.
 - Plan out the meeting. It is easy to get nervous, especially when time is limited. Ensure you plan out a timeline, including knowing which members will talk about certain topics.
 - Decide what is most important to achieve! What do you want your elected official to do?
- **During the Meeting**
 - Be prompt and patient.
 - Ensure you show up on time for your appointment and be patient if the official is running late.

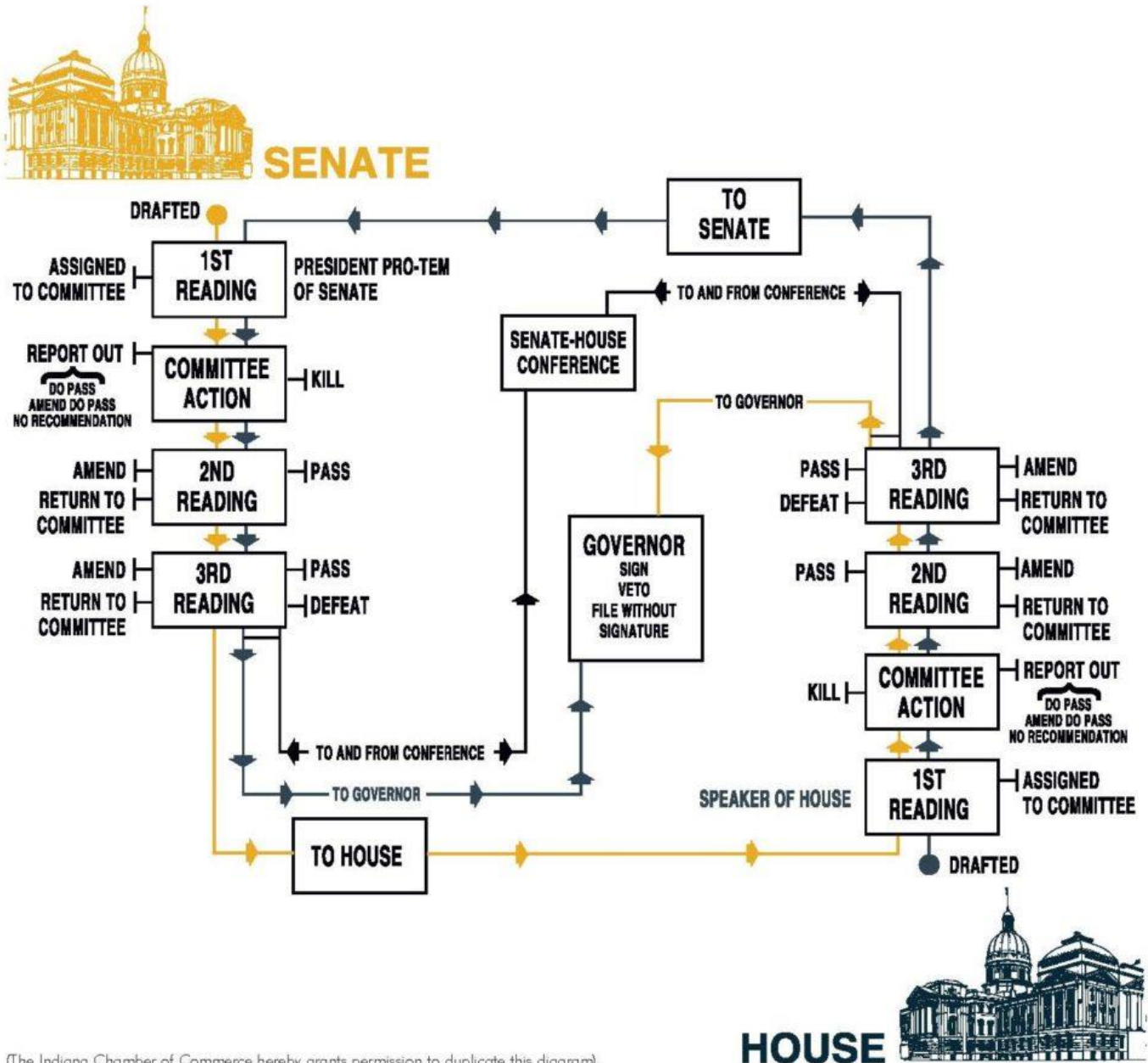
- Keep it short, focused, and to the point.
 - Re-introduce yourself and what you do.
 - You will likely only have 20-30 minutes with a member of legislation. Making sure you discuss the most important points is crucial. Saving little details for last is best.
- Bring up personal, professional, or political similarities between yourself and the elected official!
 - Knowing background about the official is a plus.
- Providing resourceful, credible information to the official is crucial to have.
 - While you can use this as a guide on what to discuss during the meeting, being able to leave these materials with the elected official at the end of the meeting is great.
- It is ok to not know something!
 - This is an opportunity for your appointed official to educate you, and vice versa. Let them know you will follow up with the answer.
 - You may be surprised that you are more educated on a topic than some elected officials, this is your chance to educate them!
- Set deadlines
- **After the Meeting**
 - Look over your notes or compare notes if there were multiple members present at the meeting.
 - Promptly send a thank you letter to the legislative member; this should be signed from all members that attended the meeting.
 - Follow up in a timely manner with any requested materials.
 - If the official does not meet the deadline for the action agreed upon, request a new deadline. Being persistent can be important!
 - Review your takeaways and determine next steps

“At Home” Resources

- Jeffery Whitman- Director of Prevent Child Abuse Indiana
 - Discuss legislative interests for each year that are pertinent to PCAIN
 - Email: JWittman@villages.org
 - Phone:
- Talk with members of The Villages to determine what bills they are interested in or currently tracking to determine how/if they affect PCAIN.
 - Shannon Schumacher- President and CEO of The Villages
 - Email: SSchumacher@villages.org
 - Phone: 317-407-9836
 - Utilizes Hannah platform and The Corydon Group for automatic legislative updates
- Covering Kids and Families Indiana
 - Amy Chandler- Director of Public Policy and Communications
 - Email: achandler@ckfindiana.org
 - Office: 317-222-1849
- Prevent Child Abuse America
 - Address: 33 N. Dearborn St., Suite 2300, Chicago, IL 60602
 - Phone: 312-663-3520
 - Email: info@preventchildabuse.org
- Dr. Rick Hug- Indiana University Northwest (IUN) Forum
 - “Hug plays a vital role in the Healthy Start Action Alliance, a local agency that promotes neonatal health and aims to reduce infant mortality in Lake County, and is on the board of the Lake County Child Health Program, which runs clinics for children of low-income families.”
 - Conference every year in April
 - Email: hugr@iu.edu

How a Bill Becomes a Law in Indiana

*The process begins in the chamber where the bill was proposed, either the Senate or the House. Once approved by one chamber, it will then switch to the next for approval. If amended, it returns to the original committee (Senate or House) and the process starts over.



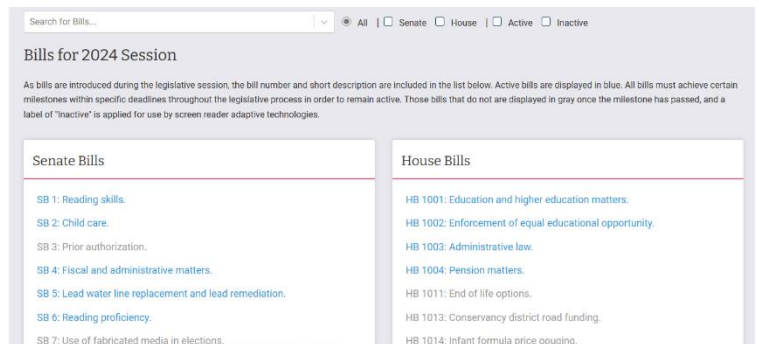
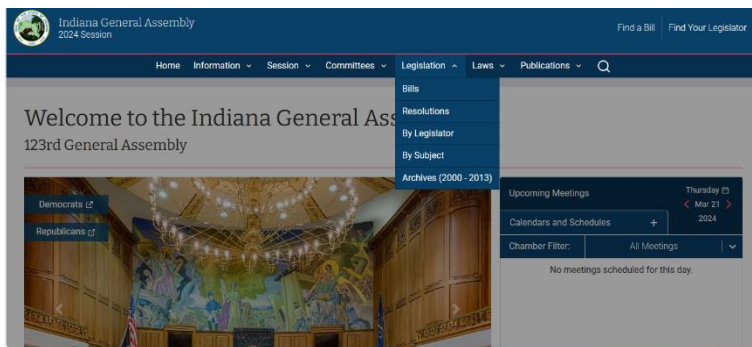
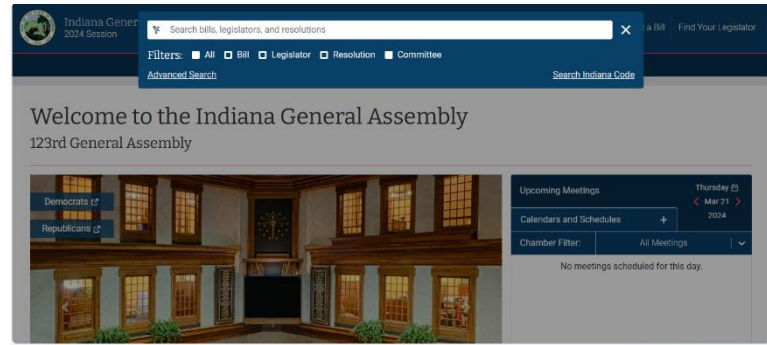
(The Indiana Chamber of Commerce hereby grants permission to duplicate this diagram).

Reference: <https://old.indianachamberblogs.com/tracking-how-a-bill-becomes-law/>

Indiana General Assembly (IGA) and Bill Tracking

Website: <https://iga.in.gov/legislative/2024/bills>

☐ You can search for a bill in multiple ways:



*Select Bill Details to see the tracking information for the selected bill. You will find the authors and co-authors of the bill at the bottom of the page.

Reference: <https://iga.in.gov/>

More about IGA

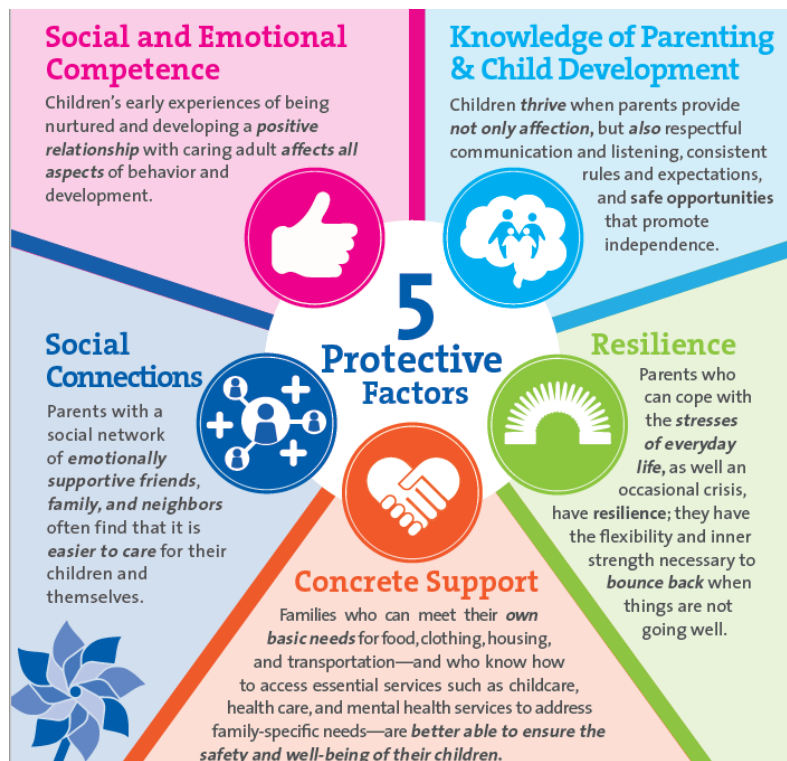
- Information about the IGA
 - Contact information, Indiana State Capital, How a Bill Becomes a Law, Notices and Updates, Locations and Maps, Contact Support, FAQ
- Actions available on the IGA website by tab:
 - Find your legislator by putting in Address and zip code
 - Sessions (2024)
 - Rules regarding the 2024 session
 - Deadlines
 - Bill number to Public Law
 - Public Law to Bill Number
 - Videos of legislation
 - Livestreams
 - Recordings
 - Senate and House
 - Calendars, bill lists, democrats, republicans, house and senate internships \
 - Committees:
 - Standing Committees
 - Senate and House schedules
 - Conference Committees
 - Senate and House schedules
 - Interim Committees
 - Schedules
 - Legislation
 - Bills
 - Resolutions
 - By Legislator (can sort by)
 - By Subject (can sort by)
 - Archives (2000-2013)
 - Laws
 - Constitution
 - Indiana code
 - Non-code statuses
 - Acts
 - Historical tables
 - Document downloads
 - Publications
 - Rules
 - Publication drop-down of various reports, reviews, and studies

Prevent Child Abuse America Public Policy and Reframing Childhood Adversity

“Prevent Child Abuse America advocates for policies and services that strengthen families and communities, promote health child development, and prevent child abuse and neglect before it happens. This is done through their nationwide state chapter network and nearly 600 Healthy Families America (HFA) evidence-based home visiting program sites across the country.

The public policy program at Prevent Child Abuse America (PCA) operates on the national level to mobilize support for federal policies and to provide technical support to help facilitate effective advocacy at the state and local levels, too. When communities, policymakers, and resources are invested in prevention strategies, we can begin to envision a world where the negative impacts and outcomes from child maltreatment will be nonexistent.”

Prevent Child Abuse America also places emphasis on reframing childhood adversity into something more positive. This includes the promotion of protective factors and positive childhood experiences versus focusing on the negative attributes. This outlook can help others become influenced to become more engaged with the work PCAIN and PCA America does. The way we begin a communication has a powerful priming effect, shaping people’s interpretation of all that comes after. Read more about it here: https://preventchildabuse.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Reframing_Childhood-Adversity-Promoting-Upstream-Approaches-031621.pdf



Reference: <https://preventchildabuse.org/what-we-do/public-policy/>, <https://www.oneplaceonslow.org/blog/bringing-the-five-protective-factors-to-life/>

How to Advocate at the Local Level

- Community activities: Campaigns like Pastries and Pinwheels, Matt Breman Run, Trainings
 - Other ideas: Handing out flyers to schools and hospitals nearby.
 - Flyer with training offerings and organization information
 - Attending hearings at the Indiana State House, appointing qualified group to testify on behalf of a topic of interest, and attending local town hall meetings where you can voice importance of topics pertinent to your area of interest ***
- Contacting the media: informing the media on what types of news your organization is interested in and news you want others to hear about
 - Write a letter about child abuse and neglect to be published in a newspaper
 - Inform the media of special events that are happening at PCAIN and pertaining to child abuse and neglect prevention
 - Reaching out to your well-known organizations for partnerships
 - Riley Hospital for Children, Peyton Manning Children's Hospital, The Children's Museum, The Indiana Pacers, The Indianapolis Colts, Kroger, The Indianapolis Zoo, Domestic Violence shelters, etc.
- Contacting public officials
 - Email: Finding the names of your federal and state elected officials
 - Phone: when an action is urgent
 - Operator to contact federal representative by where you live: (202)-224-3121
 - White House Comment line: (202)-456-1111
 - In person: speaking directly to the elected official is the most effective way!

Reference: <https://loveourchildrenusa.org/about/advocacy/advocate-child-abuse-prevention-your-community#:~:text=Contact%20the%20media&text=Publicize%20local%20facts%20and%20statistics,to%20child%20abuse%20and%20neglect.>

Other Local Child Abuse Prevention and Child Advocacy Organizations

- Riley Hospital for Children
 - Child Protection Program: Board certified child abuse pediatricians
 - What they offer: Pediatric Center of Hope, Crisis Counseling Services, Trauma treatment Services, Child Abuse Consultation Service, Pediatric Evaluation and Diagnostic Services (PEDS) Program, Community Involvement, Docs INCASE (Indiana Child Abuse Screening Education)
 - 317-274-2617 or iucpp@iupui.edu (Center of Hope)
 - Community involvement: Marion County Child Fatality Review Team, Indiana State Child Fatality Review Team, Marion County Child Protection Team, Indiana Children's Justice Act Task Force, serve as medical provider for several child advocacy centers in Central Indiana.

- Enter through ER
- Eskenazi Health
 - Center of Hope: victims of sexual assault and family violence; working with local law enforcement.
 - <https://www.eskenazihealth.edu/health-services/center-of-hope>
 - Phone: 317-880-8006
- Ascension St. Vincent- Peyton Manning Children’s Hospital: Center for Hope- Child Sexual Abuse Clinic: 2001 West 86th St. Indianapolis, IN 46260
 - Enter through Entrance #5- Pediatric ER
 - <https://www.findhelp.org/ascension-st.-vincent---peyton-manning-children%27s-hospital--indianapolis-in--center-for-hope---child-sexual-abuse-clinic/5345483679727616?postal=46201>
- Midwest Regional Children’s Advocacy Center
 - <https://www.mrcac.org/>
- Child Advocates- 8200 Haverstick Rd, Suite 240, Indianapolis, IN 46240
 - <https://www.childadvocates.net/>
- Susie’s Place Child Advocacy Center: 7519 Beechwood Centre Rd #500, Avon, IN 46123
 - <https://susiesplace.org/>
- Children’s Bureau neighborhood for Child Safety: 2160 W 86th St. Suite 201, Indianapolis, IN 46260
- Indiana Association of Resources and Child Advocacy: 5519 East 82nd St. Suite A, Indianapolis, IN 46250
 - <https://www.iarca.org/>
- Kids Talk Child Advocacy Center: 814 Central Ave. Anderson, IN 46012
 - <https://www.aspireindiana.org/community-programs/kids-talk>
- Heartford House Child Advocacy Center: 700 Farabee Ct. Lafayette, In 47905
 - <https://www.heartford.net/>
- National Youth Advocate Program: 4701 N Keystone Ave #150 Indianapolis, IN 46205
 - <https://www.nyap.org/nyap-locations/indiana.html>
- Sheltering Wings: 1251 Sycamore Ln. Danville, IN
 - Helps survivors of domestic violence find safety, healing, and hope
 - 24/7 Helpline: (317)-745-1496
 - <https://shelteringwings.org/>
- Wheeler Mission Center for Women and Children: 3208 E Michigan St. Indianapolis, IN
 - <https://wheelermission.org/wheeler125/center-for-women-children/>
- Firefly Children and Family Alliance
 - Various Locations
 - <https://fireflyin.org/>
- Covering Kids and Families Indiana: 1100 W 42nd St #317, Indianapolis, IN 46208
 - <https://www.ckfindiana.org/>
- Healthy Families Indiana: DCS Central Office, 302 W. Washington St. Indianapolis, IN, 46204

- <https://www.in.gov/dcs/prevention/healthy-families-indiana/>
- Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence: <https://icadvinc.org/>
 - Kathy King- Legislative updates/monthly emails

Let's Not Forget...

- **Victimization Risk Factors**
 - Children younger than 4 years of age
 - Children with special needs that may increase caregiver burden (e.g., disabilities, mental health issues, and chronic physical illnesses)
- **Perpetration Risk Factors**
 - Alcohol and drug use, mental health issues, previous abuse/neglect as a child, low education/income, high levels of stress, living in home with non-biological parent, attitudes of accepting or justifying violence or aggression, single parents with many children, those who don't understand children's developmental needs.
- **Family Risk factors**
 - Household members in jail or prison, isolation, experience relationship violence, high conflict and negative communication styles
- **Community Risk Factors**
 - High rates of crime and violence, high rates of poverty and limited educational/economic opportunities, high unemployment rates, easy access to drugs and alcohol, communities where neighbors don't know or look out for each other/low community involvement, few community activities for young kids, unstable residence and moving frequently, areas of food insecurity.

Reference: Centers for Disease and Control Prevention. (2022). Violence Prevention Risk and Protective Factors. <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/childabuseandneglect/riskprotectivefactors.html>

