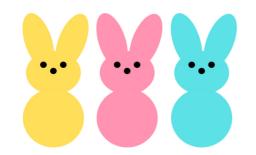
# A New Leaf's CAAFA Newsletter





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Thank you for keeping up with Survivors can find help with CAAFA. What is CAAFA? **Community Alliance Against** Family Abuse is the first and only non-profit sexual and domestic abuse service provider in Northern Pinal County.

CAAFA empowers individuals and families in the community to be free from abuse. The community learns through collaboration, prevention, and awareness.

the emergency shelter, support groups, legal advocacy, case management, sexual assault victim advocacy, food boxes, community outreach services, and more.

In this issue, you can meet our Lead Lay Legal Advocate, read about our Community Resource Spotlight of the month, learn about local events and get information on SAAM in April.

### Food Boxes:

879 N Plaza Dr. #101D Apache Junction AZ, 85120 Monday- Friday 9am-4pm (closed Holidays)

Walk-in's welcome, no referral needed. Please bring your ID!

Food boxes provided to families and individuals once per week

For more information, please call (480) 982-0205



### **Donation Requests**

Diapers (size 4, 5, 6) Toothpaste Deodorant **Paper Towels** 

**Gift Cards Dishes/Utensils Bath Towels Toilet Paper** 

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### CAAFA Team Highlight



#### Jacob Black- Lead Lay Legal Advocate

Hi, my name is Jacob Black, I've worked
for CAAFA/A NEW LEAF going on 5 years, I graduated from Brown Mackie College with an Associate of Arts: Paralegal studies degree. I started working in the movement in October of 2018 as a
Domestic Violence Shelter Advocate after working as a Shelter Advocate for 6 months I transitioned to the Legal
Advocate for CAAFA, and now currently as a Lead Advocate for the Outreach office. As a Legal/Lead Advocate I work closely with individuals to try and help with various legal needs.

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### April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month

<u>(SAAM)</u>

#### What is Sexual Violence?

- ACESDV defines "Sexual violence occurs whenever a person is forced, coerced, and/or manipulated into any unwanted sexual activity, including when [they are] unable to consent due to age, illness, disability, or the influence of alcohol or others drugs."
  - 1 in 2 women, 1 in 4 men and 1 in 2 transgender individuals experience sexual violence in their lifetime.



#### **Resources:**

During the month of April, join A New Leaf in supporting survivors of Sexual Assault by wearing teal on April 2nd, 2023, the SAAM Day of Action, and demin on April 26th, 2023 Denim Day. Be sure to tag your pictures #SAAM and #ANewLeafBelieves to bring further awareness. A New Leaf's REACH Program Provides survivor centered healing with support groups, accompaniment, resource referral etc.

Contact:sv\_sass@turnanewleaf.org (480)733-3028

> Arizona Sexual and Domestic Violence Hotline (602)279-2980

> > National SV Hotline 1-800-656-4673

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### April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month

### <u>(SAAM),</u>

#### Here some information from A New Leaf's REACH Program

#### What Is SAAM?

Sexual Assault Awareness Month is celebrated every April. It is a time for communities, individuals, and organizations to spread awareness of sexual violence, help survivors connect to services, and get people talking about the issues surrounding sexual violence.

#### 30 Facts

Throughout April, we will be posting 30 facts to bring awareness about sexual violence. These facts will be posted on all of A New Leaf's socials [Weekly] and on REACH's Instagram [Every day] @anewleaf.reach

#### <u>Start By Believing Day - Wednesday, April 5th</u>

Often times survivors are not believed and even blamed for what happened to them. Not only does that increase the trauma that survivors experience, but it also allows harm-doers to continue hurting people. The first step to ending the epidemic of sexual violence is to start believing survivors.

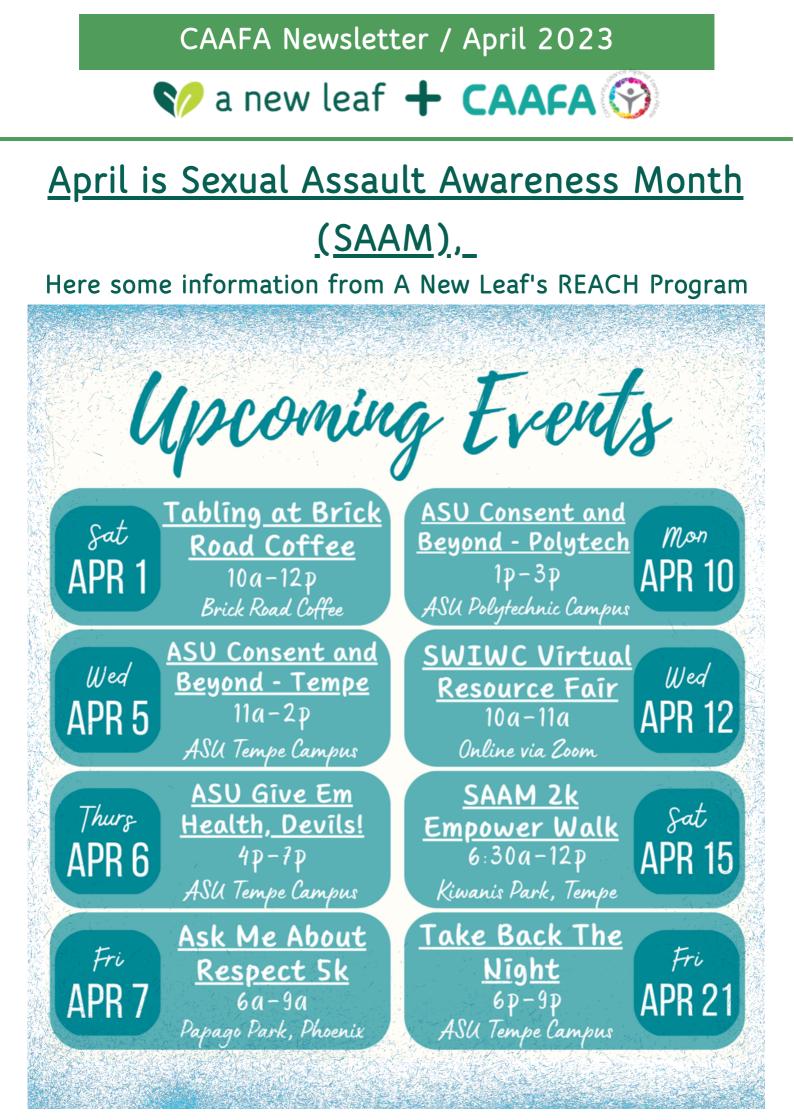
To show support, people can sign a pledge stating that they will help to end sexual violence and start believing survivors. We are partnered with the organization to have our own campaign.

People can go to https://startbybelieving.org/pledge/ to sign the pledge and use our campaign hashtag **#ANewLeafBelieves** 

#### <u>Denim Day - Wednesday, April 26th</u>

Denim day has been the longest-running sexual violence prevention and education campaign in history. The significance of denim day originates in Italy in 1992 wherein a teenage girl wearing denim jeans was sexually assaulted by a 45-year-old male driving instructor. Although the assault was reported and the perpetrator was convicted, the ruling was later overturned, and the perpetrator was released. The court argued that because the teenage girl wore tight denim jeans, she must have assisted the perpetrator in removal, and therefore implied consent.

On this day, we ask that everyone wear denim to show their support for survivors. Wearing denim is a visible protest that symbolizes solidarity for the survivors that were blamed for their assault due to their clothing. Denim Day is not only a campaign to educate and spread awareness of sexual violence on the last Wednesday of April but also a day dedicated to protesting victim blaming and destructive attitudes about sexual assault.



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# Community Resource Spotlight: FIRST THINGS FIRST

#### **Overview:**

**Mission:** First Things First is an essential leader and partner in creating a family-centered, equitable, high-quality early childhood system that supports the development, well-being, health and education of all Arizona's children, birth to age 5.

**Vision:** All Arizona's children are ready to succeed in school and in life.

#### Values:

- 1. Arizona's children, birth to age 5, and their families are our central focus.
- 2. Equity-Focused
- 3. Innovative and Continuously Improving
- 4. Accountable –
- 5. Strong Stewards
- 6. Diverse and Inclusive
- 7. Collaborative and Cooperative

For more information and resources, check out their website at: https://www.firstthings first.org/

### Services Provided:

- Birth to Five Helpline • (877)705-KIDS
- Child Care and Preschool
- Quality First Care
- Community Resource Guide
  - Pinal Family Resource GuideFind Help Phoenix
- Dental/Oral Health
  - First Teeth First/Dignity Health
  - First Smiles/ UofA Cooperative Extension Pinal County
- Developmental Sensory Screening
  - UofA Cooperative Extension Pinal County
- Family, Friend and Neighbor Caregivers
  - Outreach assistance Project with United Way of Pinal County
- Family Resource Centers
  - LSS Family Resource Center (East Mesa)
  - AZCEND Gilbert Family Resource Center
- Home Visiting
  - Healthy Families and Parents as Teachers/Child & Family Resources
  - Parent Partners Plus

#### • Parenting Education

- Strengthening Families Program
- Fun Van AJ Library

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# Community Resource Spotlight: FIRST THINGS FIRST

# Week of the Young Child

The First Things First [Pinal Regional Partnership Council] invites you to a weeklong celebration focused on early learning and the educators who support the positive development of young children.

#### April 1 - 7 | #WOYC23

#### JOIN US FOR FUN

FREE events for families with children birth to age 5 years old.

- Crafts and activities
- Music
- Raffle prizes
- Community resources

#### April 4|Tuesday

Time: 3 - 5 p.m. Where: Besich Park 240 Main Street Superior, Arizona 85173

#### April 7| Friday

**Time**: 3 - 5 p.m. **Where**: LifePoint Church 28479 N Main Street San Tan Valley, Arizona 85143

For more information call: (480) 253-1456

TOWN OF SUPERIOR





**#** FIRST THINGS FIRST

Be sure to attend the Week of the Young Child events supported by First Things First! #WOYC23

PINAL

OD COALITION



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### Upcoming Events:

#### April 8th- Apache Junction Easter Egg Hunt

"The City of Apache Junction Parks and Recreation Department would like to invite the community to participate in our annual Easter Egg Hunt at Prospector Park! Come help find over 8,500 prize filled eggs! This egg hunt is open to all ages and is free to the public.

The hunt is divided up into separate age groups: 2 & under, 3-4, 5-6, 7-9, 10-12, 11-15 & 13-17. Special prizes will be given to those who find a token in the egg during the hunt. Don't forget to bring your Easter baskets to carry all of your goodies!" Come see CAAFA at this event!

#### <u>April 15th- Battle of the Badges</u>

"A softball game between Apache Junction Police Department and Superstition Fire and Medical District will be held 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, April 15, at Prospector Park, 3015 N. Idaho Road in Apache Junction. This event is hosted by StandUp AJ, Apache Junctions drug-prevention coalition." Come see CAAFA at this event!

#### <u>April 15th- Pinal County Resource Fair</u>

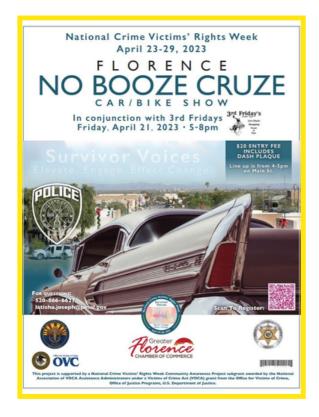
9 AM to 1 PM at Carr McNatt Park in Casa Grande, right next to the aquatic center and splash pad. Free event with resources, fod and activities! There will also be a free raffle! Come see CAAFA at this event!





### Upcoming Events:

### **Pinal County General Attorney's Office Events!**





National Crime Victims' Rights Week April 23-29, 2023

#### Kids & Community Kickball Tournament

Friday, April 28, 2023 5 - 9pm Anthem at Merrill Ranch - 3103 N. Anthem Way - Florence







### Multigenerational Center Events

### April 2023

Su	Μ	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23/ 30	24	25	26	27	28	29

- 1. LibraryCON April 1, 2023, 10:00 AM @ Apache Junction Public Library. Funfilled day of cosplay, trivia, activities, vendors & more!
- Earth Day Celebration & Ladybug Release April 1, 2023, 9:00 AM 1:00 PM
   @ Earth Heart Park. Earth Day Celebration & Ladybug Release! Come learn how keeping our community healthy keeps us healthy. Plant seedlings, listen to music, sample delicious fruit/veggies veggies and create art.
- 3. Concert In The Park April 1, 2023, 5:30 PM 7:00 PM @ Flatiron Community Park. Bring your blanket or lawn chair and enjoy a nice evening outside listening to some great music. The Spring Series of Concerts in the Park is providing you with live entertainment.
- 4. Movie In The Park April 15, 2023, 6:30 PM 8:30 PM @ Flatiron Community Park. Bring your blanket or lawn chair and enjoy a nice evening outside watching a great family movie.
- 5. April Pools Day April 22, 2023, 9:00 AM 12:00 PM. Learn about water safety thru education and hands on experiences.