In recognition of April as Child Sexual Abuse Prevention month, the YMCA of the Shoals will be joining other Y’s across Alabama and the nation in promoting “Five Days of Action Initiative” from April 24-28.

This month and throughout the year, we encourage all individuals and organizations to play a role in making our local communities a better place for children and families. Together we can prevent child sexual abuse by ensuring that adults have the knowledge, skills and resources they need to prevent, recognize and react responsibly.

1 in 10 children experiences the trauma of child sexual abuse before age 18, typically at the hand of someone they know and trust.

During the week of April 24th, we will share information and resources with our members and the community on how to keep our children safe.

We will ask members, staff and volunteers to sign a pledge to protect children. We will display these signed pledges throughout the facility to promote and emphasize the Importance of community based prevention.

Plant a pinwheel today! Did you know that the pinwheel is a symbol of a carefree, happy childhood? Every child deserves that kind of childhood. When you visit our Y, take a pinwheel and plant it in your yard. Pinwheel planting is designed to inspire all of us to take action in support of children and families during Child Abuse Prevention month.

Thank you for helping us Know. See. Respond.in effort to raise awareness.