

# Day of the Homeschooled Child

## Outreach toolkit for partners and allies





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## Welcome letter

Dear friend,

Every April, the U.S. observes **National Child Abuse Prevention Month**. It's a time to raise awareness of child abuse and inspire collective action to protect our nation's children. **But too often, a vulnerable population is left out of these efforts – homeschooled children**.

Over 1.7 million American children are being homeschooled. But **there are almost no legal protections to make sure they're receiving a quality education in a safe home.** There are no laws to stop abusive parents from using homeschooling to hide their children from mandatory reporters, isolate them from anyone outside the home, and neglect and abuse them. Countless homeschooled children have suffered because of these policy failures.

Homeschooled children deserve better than this. **That's why we at CRHE are proud to announce April 30, 2023, is the inaugural Day of the Homeschooled Child.** This day is set aside to recognize the children harmed by minimal homeschool laws across the U.S.

We would appreciate your help raising awareness of this issue. We've created a toolkit with a press release template, stories, sample social media posts, and graphics to help you do just that. Every action, no matter how small, counts.

Together, we can make homeschool safe for the children of today and tomorrow. We thank you for your support as we stand up for homeschooled children this April and beyond.

Thank you,

The Coalition for Responsible Home Education



## Take action

Here's how you can take a stand for homeschooled children this April (and beyond):

- Wear green and take a selfie to show your support for homeschooled children. Be sure to post it on April 30 and use #DayOfTheHomeschooledChild.
- Share a case from our Homeschooling's Invisible Children database on social media.
- Sign the Bill of Rights for Homeschooled Children and send it to a friend.

"CRHE was founded 10 years ago to address a problem: the use of homeschooling to abuse and neglect children."
—Angela Grimberg, CRHE executive director



## **Stories**

At CRHE, we maintain <u>Homeschooling's Invisible Children</u> (HIC), a database of child abuse and neglect cases in homeschool settings. HIC contains hundreds of cases. You're welcome to explore HIC to find a case from your state or one that resonates with you personally. Below, we've selected 16 cases you can share on social media or with family and friends.

Every HIC case contains details of child abuse, neglect, and torture that may be triggering. When you share these stories, please be sure to include an appropriate trigger warning.

#### **Fatalities**

- James Alex Hurley
- Eduardo Posso
- Adrian Jones
- Emani Moss
- Jeanette Marie Maples
- The Hart children

- Calista Springer
- Budde Lee Clark
- Natalie Jasmine Finn
- Kendrick Lee
- Tyler Raines
- Raylee Browning

#### **Survivors**

- The Turpin children
- Angel Dwyer
- A., an 8-year-old girl in West Virginia
- "Nora," a 10-year-old girl in Connecticut



## Social media

## **Helpful hints**

- Tag CRHE in your posts. We're @responsiblehomeschooling on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Instagram</u>,
  and @<u>responsiblehs</u> on Twitter. Also, be sure to use the hashtag
  #DayOfTheHomeschooledChild.
- Use our <u>official graphics</u>. We've created graphics for each of the <u>selected HIC cases</u> and for other <u>Day of the Homeschooled Child stats and facts</u>.
- Make these posts your own. Social media algorithms suppress duplicate posts. You can
  personalize these sample posts by adding more information, changing the wording, or
  adding emoji.
- Include a trigger warning when appropriate. If you're posting about child abuse or neglect, include a trigger warning at the top of your post so your audience knows what to expect.

Homeschooled children deserve safety and dignity.



### Sample posts

- Today, we mark the #DayOfTheHomeschooledChild. It's a day to honor the children who've been abused and neglected because inadequate homeschool laws fail to protect them. Join us and the Coalition for Responsible Home Education as we take a stand for homeschooled children's rights. Read and sign the Bill of Rights for Homeschooled Children: :https://responsiblehomeschooling.org/bill-of-rights/
- Every child deserves a chance at an open future. That's why we support responsible oversight as the best way to protect homeschooled children from abuse and neglect. On April 30, we mark Day of the Homeschooled Child to honor children harmed by inadequate homeschool law and to push for change. Find out how you can get involved: https://dayofthehomeschooledchild.org
- April 30 is #DayOfTheHomeschooledChild. It's a day to remember the children harmed by the U.S.'s minimal homeschool laws and to #MakeHomeschoolSafe for them. Join me in taking a stand for these children by signing CRHE's Bill of Rights for Homeschooled Children: https://responsiblehomeschooling.org/bill-of-rights/
- Homeschooled children deserve safety and dignity. That's why I'm proud to take part in Day of the Homeschooled Child. Held April 30, it's a day to honor the lives of children harmed by homeschooling and to fight for their rights. Join me: https://dayofthehomeschooledchild.org
- Today is #DayOfTheHomeschooledChild, and I'm wearing green today to honor the children harmed by minimal homeschool laws across the country. Join me in taking a stand for over 1.7 million children who need our help: https://dayofthehomeschooledchild.org



- This is an outrage: 48 out of 50 states allow convicted child abusers and registered sex offenders to homeschool. Homeschooled children deserve better protections. This #DayOfTheHomeschooledChild, join me in taking a stand for these children's rights: https://dayofthehomeschooledchild.org
- Over 1.7 million children lack guaranteed access to child welfare programs because they
  happen to be homeschooled. These children's safety and wellbeing matter. That's why
  we're proud to mark #DayOfTheHomeschooledChild April 30:
  https://dayofthehomeschooledchild.org



#### Follow CRHE on social media:

- Facebook
- <u>Twitter</u>
- <u>Instagram</u>
- LinkedIn