

Pelham Goes BLUE for the month of April

Blue Lights & Pinwheel Border

For the entire month of April, blue spotlights will be seen illuminating Pelham City Hall. Pelham will be going **BLUE** the entire month of ***April, in honor of National Child Abuse Prevention Awareness month***. The City of Pelham will be partnering with Alabama Family Rights Association (ALFRA), the Exchange Club of Shelby County, and Exchange Club Child Abuse Prevention Center to ***bring awareness toward the mission of overcoming Parental Alienation. The City of Pelham and ALFRA will stand strong together against all forms of child abuse and neglect.***

Parental alienation, or hostile aggressive parenting, is a group of behaviors that are damaging to children's mental and emotional well-being, and can interfere with a relationship of a child and either parent. These behaviors most often accompany high conflict marriages, separation, or divorce.

Every child has a fundamental right and need for an unthreatened and loving relationship with BOTH parents, and to be denied that right by one parent or third party, without sufficient justification such as abuse or neglect, is in itself a form of child abuse. Since it is the child who is being violated by a parent's alienating behaviors, it is the child who is being alienated from the other parent.

The Alabama Family Rights Association, Exchange Club of Shelby County, and Exchange Club CAP Center will be planting a *Pinwheel Border on each side of the walkway leading to the Pelham City Hall*. The Pinwheels on each side of the walkway symbolizes balance, intended to represent the balance children need from both of their parents; free to love them and spend time with them. Pinwheels represent the happy, healthy childhood that ALL children deserve. We want all members of the community that pass by to stop and take notice and learn more about the symbolism behind our pinwheel display.

Our 40 pinwheels planted represent the estimated 40,000 children each year that are affected by Parental Alienation in some form.

We are working to bring awareness to parental alienation, so **EVERY CHILD is free to LOVE BOTH parents.**

ALL CHILDREN DESERVE A GREAT CHILDHOOD!!