



# WAYS YOUR COMMUNITY CAN SUPPORT PARENTS AND CREATE POSITIVE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES

- 1 Learn who in your community is actively helping families. Connect those who need help. Follow up to make sure people are getting what they need.
- 2 Encourage caregivers to reach out for help. Knowing when help is needed is an important part of building strong families.
- 3 Set up a collection for canned goods, diapers, cleaning supplies and other essentials. Donate them to a local food pantry.
- 4 Hold a weekly stroller walk for young parents. Encourage them to make connections with other parents.
- 5 Connect families to VITA tax services and encourage them to take advantage of available tax credits so they can keep more of their earned income. Visit [SC211.org](http://SC211.org) to schedule an appointment at a nearby site.
- 6 Promote family-friendly employment policies. Offer parents the flexibility to take children to doctor's visits, to support distance learning and to recharge their lives.
- 7 Use your parking lot to hold a community swap event for families to trade books, school supplies or clothes.
- 8 Plant a pinwheel garden. Explain how pinwheels are the symbol of happy, healthy childhoods that all children should have. Encourage discussions of how you can support children and their families.

