13. Fathers who connect with their children form strong family bonds.

14. Parents can learn ways to calm a crying baby and manage feelings of frustration when a baby is in consolable.

15. Parents can investigate child care provider for any history of abusing children. Use Trustline to checkout child care providers 800-822-8490.

16. Parents can ask for help when depressed or stressed by life’s challenges.

17. Parents learning about child safety in the home can prevent accidents and increase awareness of the environment.

18. Parents can use community services such as respite care and home visiting services to strengthen parental resilience when times are tough.

19. Communities can support families by providing free or low-cost activities that encourage parent/child interactions.

20. Community networks collaborating with each other facilitate ease of referrals and obtaining services for families.
8. Children under two years of age are at greater risk of abuse or neglect.
9. Prematurity is a risk factor for child abuse or neglect.
10. Abusive head trauma or shaken baby syndrome often occurs when an adult shakes a child because of inexpressible crying.
11. Children with disabilities are more likely to be abused or neglected than children with no disabilities.
12. Neglected or sexually abused children may not show physical signs of harm.
13. Children in poverty suffer neglect and abuse 22 times more than children in affluent families.
14. It is against the law to knowingly make a false report of child abuse or neglect.
15. Reporting child abuse or neglect only requires “reasonable suspicion” and does not automatically mean the child will be removed from the home.
16. Only Child Protective Services or a law enforcement agency may conduct an investigation into suspected abuse or neglect.
17. In California, mandated reporters are required to report child abuse and neglect. Mandated reporters are those who come into contact with children through their employment and may receive training at mandatedreporterca.com.
18. Once investigated, reports of suspected child abuse are categorized as substantiated, unfounded or inconclusive (insufficient evidence).
19. Substantiated and inconclusive reports of child abuse or neglect are filed in the California Department of Justice Child Abuse Central Index (CACI) database.
20. Unfounded reports are purged from the CACI database.

**20 WAYS OF PREVENTING CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT**

1. The Child Help USA Hotline offers 24-hour crisis telephone assistance for individuals under stress. Telephone counseling is available in 140 languages 800-422-4453.
2. Organizations such as Parents Anonymous offer self-help groups for parents seeking support and positive parent strategies at www.parents_anonymous.org.
3. Child Abuse Prevention Councils or Family Resource Centers have resources available locally to help families. www.capsac.org/crisisnumbers/ca-councils or 222. familyresourcecenters.net
4. Parents who ask for help in getting housing, food, transportation, and/or health care protect their families from stress.
5. Being connected to family and friends by sharing celebrations and day-to-day problems makes families stronger.
6. Families who use a family physician and healthcare provider, also known as a medical home, promote good health and children are screened for normal developmental milestones on an ongoing basis.
7. Parents who encourage, listen, and accept expression of emotions help their child develop healthy self-esteem about themselves and in relation to others.
8. Parents who learn about and practice safe nonviolent forms of child discipline become positive role models for their children.
9. Learning what is normal with their child’s development helps parents accept their children as they are and decreases frustration from unrealistic expectations.
10. Parents that utilize recovery programs for alcohol or drug abuse learn to stay clean and stay connected with others.
11. Parent education classes teach parents the benefits of bonding, understanding, and accepting their child’s personalities.