

## Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation

It is necessary to build a robust family well-being system that not only supports families when they are in a crisis but is intentional in supporting families before they are in crisis. In Texas, we believe that children thrive in safe, stable, nurturing families, within their own communities. Through establishing partnerships with families that capitalize on the collective strengths of parents and their children we can build strong, healthy families and resilient communities where children can thrive.

Sadly, child maltreatment is still a significant public health issue. Communities that lack accessible supports and resources can experience increased risk factors that lead to child abuse and neglect. Despite the complex factors that can lead to child maltreatment, it can be prevented.

Each year, the month of April is dedicated to recognizing the critical work being done across our great state to support families before a crisis occurs and offer them accessible lifelines that mitigate the challenges they face. Child abuse prevention occurs every day through the diligent work, tireless advocacy, and simple acts of kindness undertaken by Texas families, friends, neighbors, houses of faith, advocacy groups, nonprofit organizations, schools, health-care providers, social workers, and government agencies to support children and families in every community across the Lone Star State.

Child abuse prevention cannot be tasked to one community, agency, or system. Behind many families that succeeded on their own is a strong community that provided a way for the family to meet their needs. All Texans must work together to strengthen our communities and build localized supports that are accessible, contribute to the well-being of the entire community, and keep children and families safe and together. I encourage all Texans to learn more about the many aspects of our communities working hard to create positive, healthy environments for the future leaders of our great state and nation. Together, we can create a brighter future for children, families, and communities in Texas and ensure future leaders have the support they need to thrive and reach their potential.

Therefore, I, XXXX, **Governor of Texas**, do hereby proclaim April 2024 to be Child Abuse Prevention Month in **Texas**, and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this the  
XX day of March 2024.