

Of
Child Abuse Prevention Month

WHEREAS, the problem of child abuse and neglect affects many of Buncombe County’s children and has reached epidemic proportions in North Carolina with over 129,000 reports investigated for abuse and neglect last year; and

WHEREAS, last year the Buncombe County Health and Human Services Department received 4,687 reports of child abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, preventing child abuse and neglect is the responsibility of all citizens and every child has a right to a safe, healthy, nurturing environment; and

WHEREAS, research shows that complex problems such as child abuse and neglect require coordinated efforts across a multiple of disciplines including mental health, domestic violence, substance abuse, child advocacy, school nursing, and public health; and

WHEREAS, Buncombe County is committed to coordinating and aligning our resources with community partners so we are focused on evidence informed best practices with demonstrated improved outcomes; and

WHEREAS, Buncombe County has joined forces with the Child Protection Team of Buncombe County; Child Abuse Prevention Services, Inc. and Mission Children’s Health to reach out to parents, caregivers, and children to prevent child abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized that Buncombe County’s Domestic Violence Campaign; Family Justice Center; one stop mental health services for children and adults and the development and support of an accredited Child Advocacy Center will support these prevention efforts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the Board of Commissioners for the County of Buncombe as follows:

1. That the month of April 2015 be proclaimed:

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

in Buncombe County.

2. That this Board does hereby call upon every citizen to join the child protection organizations, groups, and individuals in observance of the month with appropriate programs and activities and to report child abuse and neglect - “when in doubt report” by calling 828-250-5900.
3. That this proclamation be effective upon its adoption.

ADOPTED this the 7th day of April 2015

Board of Commissioners for the County of Buncombe

By: _____
David Gantt, Chairman