

Of

## Child Abuse Prevention Month

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**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 125,000 children reported abused or neglected last year; and

**WHEREAS,** last year the Buncombe County Department of Health and Human Services received 4,520 reports of child abuse and neglect; and

**WHEREAS,** preventing child abuse and neglect is the responsibility of all citizens; and

**WHEREAS,** every child has a right to a safe, healthy, nurturing environment; and

**WHEREAS,** community action is needed to help prevent child abuse so all children can have the opportunity to reach their potential; and

**WHEREAS,** it is vital that we join forces with the Child Protection Team of Buncombe County and Child Abuse Prevention Services, Inc. to reach out to parents and children to prevent child abuse and neglect and to strengthen families and children who have experienced abuse.

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

1. That the month of April 2016 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.
3. That this proclamation be effective upon its adoption.

**ADOPTED** this the 5th day of April 2016.

**Board of Commissioners for the County of Buncombe**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
David Gantt, Chairman