

Child Abuse Prevention Month

Whereas, children are vital to our state's future success, prosperity and quality of life as well as being our most vulnerable assets;

Whereas, all children deserve to have the safe, stable, nurturing homes and communities they need to foster their healthy growth and development;

Whereas, child abuse and neglect are community responsibilities affecting both the current and future quality of life of a community;

Whereas, communities that provide parents with the social support, knowledge of parenting and child development and concrete resources they need to cope with stress and nurture their children ensure all children grow to their full potential;

Whereas, effective child abuse prevention strategies are a whole community response that requires partnerships created among citizens, human service agencies, behavioral health providers, schools, faith communities, health care providers, civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community;

Whereas, it is vital that we join forces with the Child Protection Team of Buncombe County and Mountain Child Advocacy Center, to reach out to parents and children to prevent child physical abuse, sexual 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 2023 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 4th day of April 2023

Brownie Newman

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Chairman, Buncombe County Board of Commissioners