



**STATE OF TEXAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

In this state and across our nation, we value our children as not only the miracles they are, but as our greatest hopes for the future. There can be no doubt that every child deserves to grow up in a nurturing environment free from harm and fear. Sadly, child abuse — physical, sexual, or emotional — is far too common in our society. Last year, the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services confirmed 67,313 cases where innocent children were victims of abuse or neglect.

Child abuse and neglect are serious public health issues, impacting family stability, child development, family self-sufficiency, and critical health outcomes across Texas. In order to combat this serious issue, children's advocacy groups, nonprofit organizations, social workers, and government agencies across the Lone Star State work daily to help children and families grow and thrive through education and awareness. Through compassion and commitment, they help ensure children have caregivers and homes that support their physical, intellectual, and emotional needs.

Each year, the month of April is dedicated to recognizing that the safety and well-being of children in Texas must be a priority and honoring friends, neighbors, educators, faith leaders, business owners, health care workers, counselors, and many others who help promote the well-being of children.

At this time, 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 state and nation. Together, we can create a brighter future for the children of Texas.

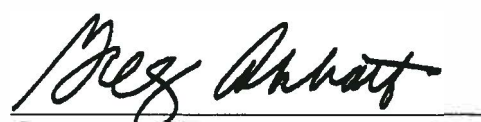
Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim April 2020 to be

Child Abuse Prevention Month



in Texas, and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof,
I hereby affix my signature this the
16th day of March, 2020.


Governor of Texas