

## STATE OF TEXAS OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

We must build a robust family well-being system that intentionally supports families, both during a crisis and before crises emerge. In Texas, we know that children thrive in safe, stable, nurturing families and within strong communities. By establishing partnerships and capitalizing on the collective strengths of parents and children, we can build strong, healthy families and resilient communities where children can excel.

Tragically, child maltreatment remains a significant public health issue. In the absence of accessible supports and resources, communities can experience increased risk of child abuse and neglect. Despite the complex factors contributing to child maltreatment, it can indeed be prevented.

Each year, the month of April is dedicated to recognizing the people across our great state working to support families before a crisis occurs, to offer them accessible lifelines, and to mitigate the challenges they face. Child abuse prevention occurs every day through the diligent efforts, 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, all of whom support children and families throughout the Lone Star State.

Child abuse prevention cannot be tasked to one community, agency, or system. Behind many successful families is a strong community that enabled the family to meet its needs. All Texans must work together to strengthen our communities and build localized, accessible support systems that contribute to the well-being of the entire community, protect children, and keep families whole.

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 great state and nation. Together, we can create a brighter future for children, families, and communities in Texas and ensure that the next generation is able to thrive and reach its full potential.

Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim April 2024 to be

## **Child Abuse Prevention Month**



in Texas and urge all Texans to observe the occasion with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto affixed my signature this the 27th day of March, 2024.

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Governor of Texas