

Proclamation

- WHEREAS:** April is known in the United States as National Child Abuse Prevention Month to ensure that survivors know that they are not alone; and
- WHEREAS:** Child abuse includes physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, and/or neglect by a parent, caregiver, or someone in a custodial role; and
- WHEREAS:** On average, one in seven children experienced some form of abuse in the past year; and
- WHEREAS:** On average, one in four girls and one in 13 boys will experience sexual abuse before the age of 18; and
- WHEREAS:** 93% of child sex abuse survivors knew their abuser; and
- WHEREAS:** 47% of transgender individuals have experienced some form of sexual violence; and
- WHEREAS:** The WIRC-CAA Victim Services crisis hotline annually receives thousands of hotline calls from individuals who have experienced or witnessed some form of abuse; and
- WHEREAS:** Child abuse can have lifelong consequences for the survivor, including impacts to their mental health, physical health, and education; and
- WHEREAS:** Child abuse is an overwhelming moral, economic and public health burden; and
- WHEREAS:** Support and counseling are essential to recover from the trauma of abuse; and
- WHEREAS:** Education about child abuse and the impacts on survivors are essential to ending the cycle of abuse and advancing equality, safety and respect among all individuals.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Mayor of this City, do hereby proclaim the month of April as:

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

and urge all citizens to stand together against child abuse, to offer support and understanding to survivors, and to participate in awareness activities.

In Witness Whereof, I set my hand and cause the Great Seal of the City to be affixed this day in the month of April in the year 2023.

Mayor

Date