



WHITESTOWN

INDIANA

PROCLAMATION

A Proclamation by the Whitestown Town Council To proclaim the Month of April as Child Abuse Awareness Month

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

WHEREAS, April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month; and

WHEREAS, suspected abuse and neglect of children is the moral responsibility of every citizen to report; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Whitestown, Indiana ("Town Council") actively promotes a proactive response to the problem of child abuse and neglect by supporting the efforts of organizations, such as Prevent Child Abuse America, to prevent child maltreatment in all its forms; and

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

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect can be reduced by informing families about community resources and services available that could help prevent a family crisis or help overcome one; and

WHEREAS, finding solutions to prevent child abuse and neglect is furthered by involvement among people throughout the community; and

WHEREAS, communities that provide parents with the social support, knowledge of parenting and child development, and concrete resources to cope with stress and nurture children, help provide opportunities for children to grow to their full potential; and

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention strategies are better positioned to succeed with the assistance of partnerships created among citizens, human service agencies, schools, faith communities, health care providers, civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community; and

WHEREAS, Prevent Child Abuse America estimates that child abuse and neglect affects 1 million American children each year and costs our nation \$220 million every day through investigations, foster care, medical and mental health treatment, special education, juvenile and adult crime, chronic health problems, and other costs across the life span; and

WHEREAS, Whitestown owes a debt of gratitude to concerned citizens and organizations that provide families with services to ensure the physical and emotional well-being of our children; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council desires to make a positive impact on the future by addressing child abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council has previously declared each respective April as "Child Abuse Prevention Month" in the past several years; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to ensure continued attention to this important issue, the Town Council desires to establish April as "Child Abuse Prevention Month" in all future years until further action by the Town Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Council of the Town of Whitestown, Indiana, as follows:

Section 1. The Town Council does hereby declare and proclaim April as CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH each year in Whitestown, Indiana.

Section 2. The Town, through its Town Manager and all of its Departments, is hereby charged with the responsibility of actively promoting Child Abuse Prevention Month in the Town each year in order to make a positive impact on the future through the prevention of child abuse and neglect.

Section 3. The Town Council urges all citizens to take the opportunity to renew their commitment to protecting the children of Boone County; for in so doing, we will enhance the quality of life not only for children at risk but for the entire citizenry as well.

Section 4. The Town, through the Town Manager, is hereby charged with arranging the planting of a pinwheel garden at the Whitestown Municipal Complex in recognition of Child Abuse Prevention Month each year.

Passed and adopted by the Whitestown, Indiana Town Council on this 10th day of April, 2024.

Dan Patterson

Tanya Sumner

Cheryl Hancock

Eric Nichols

Tobe Thomas