

WHEREAS, child abuse is a serious and growing problem that occurs when people feel more vulnerable due to stressful situations and economic challenges; and

WHEREAS, child abuse has been linked to a wide range of medical, emotional, psychological and behavioral disorders that depend on the involvement of people throughout the community; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect are problems that depend on community involvement to ensure that each family has the support necessary to raise their children in a safe, healthy and nurturing environment; and

WHEREAS, effective child abuse programs succeed because of partnerships created among state and local government agencies, schools, faith based organizations and the business community; and

WHEREAS, CASTLE (Child Abuse Services, Training & Life Enrichment) of the Treasure Coast and Okeechobee County, through their support of parent aid programs, parenting classes, educational programs, and community service activities, is making significant progress in stopping this crime against our nation's and community's children and families.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Linda Hudson, Mayor of the City of Fort Pierce, Florida, do hereby proclaim the month of April, 2014, as:

“CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH”

in the City of Fort Pierce and urge all citizens, community agencies, faith groups, medical facilities, and businesses to increase their participation to support families, thereby preventing child abuse and strengthening our community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Fort Pierce, Florida, to be affixed this 7th day of April, 2014.

MAYOR COMMISSIONER