

**PROCLAMATION IN SUPPORT OF THE
CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER OF HIDALGO COUNTY**

WHEREAS, the Children's Advocacy Center was established in the year 2000 in tribute to Estrella Rojas, a victim of child abuse whose life ended tragically in Edinburg, Texas. Her memory is kept alive by helping and treating any child who is a victim of abuse; and

WHEREAS, Children's Advocacy Center, a non-profit organization, is one of 800 child advocacy centers nationwide, one of 68 certified Children's Advocacy Centers in Texas, and the first child-focused facility and community-based program of its kind in Hidalgo County, servicing child abuse victims from 2- to 17-years of age; and

WHEREAS, the mission of Children's Advocacy Center, is to reduce the emotional trauma to child abuse victims by facilitating a multidisciplinary team approach, which supports the prevention of child abuse through community education and promotes the effective prosecution of those who perpetrate crimes against children; and

WHEREAS, Children's Advocacy Center, gives hope, healing, and justice to victims of child abuse by providing a safe haven with a child-friendly, non-institutional environment where young victims are not afraid to tell their stories. Re-victimization of child victims is minimized by using a multidisciplinary team approach to child abuse investigations; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners Court of Hidalgo County has, in past years, been a major benefactor of the Children's Advocacy Center of Hidalgo County by providing funds as allowed by Local Government Code Section 381.004, and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners Court of Hidalgo County is mindful of the critical economic hardships and alarming reductions in Federal and State funding to all kinds of important social service providers such as the Children's Advocacy Center; and

WHEREAS, to raise awareness and funds for the organization, the Children's Advocacy Center of Hidalgo County is having the annual *Vinos Wine Extravaganza!* at Embassy Suites McAllen Convention Center on Saturday, February 18, 2017 from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m., featuring wine, entertainment by Premier Show Band, Electric Circus, and Renaissance Rockers and delicious food provided by local restaurants.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DECLARED that the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court supports this event to raise funds for the Children's Advocacy Center of Hidalgo County in their mission to break the cycle of abuse, one child at a time.

Approved this 6th day of February 2017.

RAMON GARCIA
County Judge

DAVID FUENTES
County Commissioner, Pct. 1

EDUARDO "EDDIE" CANTU
County Commissioner, Pct. 2

JOE M. FLORES
County Commissioner, Pct. 3

JOSEPH PALACIOS
County Commissioner, Pct. 4

Attest: ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR.
County Clerk