

*Proclamation declaring April 2022
as Child Abuse Prevention Month*

Whereas child abuse prevention is a community responsibility and finding solutions depends on the involvement of all people; and

Whereas child abuse includes physical abuse, neglect and abandonment, emotional abuse and sexual abuse; and

Whereas Texas law requires that any person suspecting that a child has been abused or neglected must immediately make a report; and

Whereas in Fiscal Year 2021, there were 286,314 reports of child abuse filed with the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services of which 43,270 were confirmed victims of child abuse and neglect in the State of Texas; including 199 child fatalities; and

Whereas in Hidalgo County there were 7,967 reports of child abuse and 5,895 child abuse and neglect investigations of which 1,133 were confirmed cases of child abuse; and

Whereas of those cases investigated for abuse, a total of 339 were victims of child sexual abuse and 168 were victims of physical abuse, including 6 child fatalities; and

Whereas effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships among agencies, schools, religious organizations, law enforcement agencies and the business community; and

Whereas the Hidalgo County Criminal District Attorney's Office encourages everyone in the community to become more aware of child abuse prevention and raising children in a safe, nurturing and loving environment.

Now therefore, be it proclaimed that the Hidalgo County Commissioner's Court hereby declares April 2022 to be Child Abuse Prevention Month in Hidalgo County and urges all citizens to work together in order to significantly reduce neglect and child abuse in years to come.

Approved this 5th day of April, 2022.

RICHARD F. CORTEZ
County Judge

DAVID L. FUENTES
County Commissioner, Pct. 1

EDUARDO "EDDIE" CANTU
County Commissioner, Pct. 2

EVERARDO "EVER" VILLARREAL
County Commissioner, Pct. 3

ELLIE TORRES
County Commissioner, Pct. 4

Attest: _____
ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR.
County Clerk