

*Proclamation declaring April 2023
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 in Fiscal Year 2022, there were **56,944** confirmed victims of child abuse and neglect and **182** fatalities of children in the State of Texas; and

Whereas the Texas Department of Family & Protective Services conducted **7,827** investigations of child abuse and neglect in Hidalgo County in Fiscal Year 2022; 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 of those cases investigated for abuse and neglect, a total of **1,586** were confirmed victims of child abuse and neglect, including **3** child fatalities; and

Whereas communities must make every effort to promote programs that benefit children and their families; 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 everyone in the community should become more aware of child abuse prevention and consider helping parents raise their children in a safe, nurturing and loving environment.

Now therefore, be it proclaimed that the Hidalgo County Commissioner's Court hereby declares April 2023 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 __ day of April, 2023.

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