



## **Child Abuse Prevention & Awareness Month-April 2024**

**Whereas**, more than 37,264 cases of child abuse and neglect were confirmed in Texas during 2023; and

**Whereas**, there were 177 confirmed victims of child abuse and neglect in Guadalupe County in 2023; and

**Whereas**, child abuse prevention is a community responsibility and finding solutions depends on involvement among all people; and

**Whereas**, communities must make every effort to promote and support programs that benefit children and their families; and

**Whereas**, effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships among a variety of entities including but not limited to schools, religious organizations, law enforcement agencies, child protective services, prosecution agencies, medical professionals, mental health professionals, the Children's Advocacy Centers, Court Appointed Special Advocates, and other community-based non-profit organizations; and

**Whereas**, everyone in the community should become more aware of child abuse prevention and consider helping parents raise their children in safe, nurturing environments as well as supporting local professionals dedicated to meeting the needs of child abuse victims; and

**Now Therefore, Be It Resolved**, that I Ralph Gutierrez, Mayor of the City of Schertz hereby proclaims

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in Schertz, Texas, and urge all citizens to work together to reduce child abuse and neglect and to significantly improve the response of our community when child abuse occurs in the months and years ahead.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the SEAL of the City of Schertz to be affixed this the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April 2024

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Ralph Gutierrez, Mayor