



# PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS,** Elderly persons in Williamson County come from diverse backgrounds, and they have contributed to the continuing story of our county by upholding and sharing their customs and traditions; and

**WHEREAS,** These residents are vital and integral members of our society, and their wisdom and lived experience make our lives more meaningful; and

**WHEREAS,** Abuse of the elderly in domestic and institutional settings is a wide-spread problem, affecting thousands of people across the country; and

**WHEREAS,** Texas Adult Protective Services (APS) In-Home Caseworkers in Williamson County investigated 830 intakes of which 345 cases of abuse, neglect and/or exploitation were confirmed against our elderly Texans in 2021; and

**WHEREAS,** Elder abuse is grossly underreported because abused seniors find it very difficult to tell anyone because they feel ashamed and/or afraid; and

**WHEREAS,** Elder abuse victimizes men and women at all income levels, all cultural and ethnic groups, whether they are in good health or incapacitated, and across the spectrum of neighborhoods and localities; and

**WHEREAS,** Many of the cases investigated by Texas APS may involve self-neglect, it is our calling as family, friends, and neighbors to reach out to people in need and to check in regularly with those who are seniors;

**NOW, THEREFORE,** the Williamson County Commissioners Court do hereby proclaim the month of June 2022 to be Elder Abuse Prevention Month in Williamson County and urge all citizens to work together in reducing and preventing abuse and neglect of our senior population.

Passed by Commissioners Court and Signed on this date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Bill Gravell, County Judge

On behalf of the Williamson County Commissioners Court Members