



WILCO PROCLAMATION
TEXAS

WHEREAS, the month of April is recognized nationally as Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month, a time to raise awareness about the critical issue of child abuse and neglect, recognizing that every child best matures in a safe, nurturing environment, free from abuse and neglect, and acknowledge that the well-being of our children is a shared responsibility that strengthens the foundation of our community; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect impact children of all ages, races, and socioeconomic backgrounds, posing a significant threat to their physical, emotional, and developmental health; requiring a united effort of the community to address; and

WHEREAS, the Williamson County Children’s Advocacy Center (WCCAC) is dedicated to its mission of providing hope, healing, and justice for children and families impacted by abuse, violence, and exploitation in our community.

WCCAC 2025 work included:

- conducted 968 forensic interviews (average of over 18/week)
- 50% of cases involved sexual abuse, 23% physical abuse, and 19% neglect, predominantly impacting children aged 7-12, followed by 13–17-year-olds, then birth–6-year-olds
- provided 385 medical exams (average of over 7/week)
- supported 621 families through advocacy, counseling, and education
- delivered trauma therapy to 158 individuals
- educated 23,526 community members on child safety, that included recognizing the signs of abuse and what steps to then take
- 2,853 volunteer hours from over 700 volunteers

WHEREAS, 1 in 10 children will disclose that they are being abused (the average age to disclose sexual abuse is 52 years old).

WHEREAS, investing in prevention not only supports healthy child development but also significantly reduces long-term costs to society, ensuring resources are directed toward fostering positive growth and resilience in our children; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners Court of Williamson County supports efforts that empower families, train community members, and foster partnerships with local law enforcement and child-serving providers to create safer environments for children; and

WHEREAS, we must continue to stand together as a community to protect our children, advocate for their rights, and ensure they have the opportunity to thrive and reach their full potential in a supportive and loving environment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Commissioners Court of Williamson County, Texas, hereby proclaims April 2026 as

Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month

in Williamson County, and calls upon all citizens, organizations, and community leaders to join together in a shared effort to prevent child abuse, raise awareness about its impact, and support the vital work of the Williamson County Children’s Advocacy Center in providing hope and healing for children and families.

Passed by Commissioners Court and Signed on this date: _____

Steven Snell, County Judge

On behalf of the Williamson County Commissioners Court Members