



WHEREAS, every child deserves to grow up in a safe, nurturing environment free from abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect does not discriminate and affects children of all ages, races, and socioeconomic backgrounds and poses a threat to the well-being and development of our community's youngest members; and

WHEREAS, in the last fiscal year, the Williamson County Child Advocacy Center reviewed 5,298 intakes of alleged child abuse (4891 in 2021, 5469 in 2022), conducted 917 forensic interviews (816 in 2021, 779 in 2022), and 423 forensic medical exams; and

WHEREAS, preventing child abuse requires collaboration among families, communities, organizations, and government entities to create safe, stable, and nurturing environments for all children; and

WHEREAS, the Williamson County Commissioners Court continues to recognize the importance of promoting awareness and prevention efforts to address the widespread issue of the harm done to our youngest inhabitants through the support we give to the Williamson County Child Advocacy Center; and

WHEREAS, county residents are committed to protecting our children and supporting families in crisis through education, intervention, and community resources;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Williamson County Commissioners Court hereby proclaims April 2024 as Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month in Williamson County, and urge everyone- individuals, community agencies, faith groups, and businesses- to join together to raise awareness about child abuse and neglect and work collaboratively to prevent it;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we call upon all efforts that strengthen families and create environments where children and their families can thrive, grow, and reach their full potential. By standing together, we can make a significant impact in the lives of our children and build a community that prioritizes the well-being of every single child.

Passed by Commissioners Court and Signed on this date: April 9, 2024

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Bill Gravell', is written over a horizontal line.

Bill Gravell, County Judge

On behalf of the Williamson County Commissioners Court Members