



County Commissioners of Charles County

PROCLAMATION 2023-22 National Child Abuse Prevention Month

WHEREAS, every child deserves to grow up in a nurturing environment, free from abuse, neglect, violence or endangerment of any kind; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect cause serious harm to a child's development and has lifelong effects that endanger safety, hinder permanency in relationships, and reduces well-being, creating greater demands on society; and

WHEREAS, prevention has positive effects on children as it strengthens families and provides a better quality of life for children and is cost effective; and

WHEREAS, this year's National Child Abuse Prevention month theme, "Building Together: Prevention in Partnership" uses the building blocks and construction to reinforce the concept that prevention cannot and does not happen alone; and

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships created among families, the child advocacy center, social services agencies, schools, faith communities, civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, and business community; and

WHEREAS, safe, stable, and nurturing relationships and communities can break the cycle of abuse and calls for all residents to be watchful and vigilant in protecting children by detecting families in crisis before abuse occurs and reporting abuse when it does occur.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim April 2023, as **National Child Abuse Prevention Month** in Charles County and encourage all residents to become more involved and support programs and activities that strengthen families and benefit children in order to help prevent child abuse.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

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Attest:

Carol A. DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners