



# County Commissioners of Charles County

## PROCLAMATION 2024-20

### 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**, the 2024 National Child Abuse Prevention Month theme is, "Building A Hopeful Future Together" focusing on creating a nurturing and supportive environment for children and families across the nation; 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 2024, 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

**Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., President**

**Ralph E. Patterson, II, M.A., Vice President**  
District 4

**Gilbert O. Bowling, III**  
District 1

**Thomasina O. Coates, M.S.**  
District 2

**Amanda M. Stewart, M.Ed.**  
District 3

Attest:

Christina Elkins, Assistant Clerk to the Commissioners