## Resolution

ORDER NO. 2020-0312

DATE: April 7th, 2020

STATE OF TEXAS

**COUNTY OF DALLAS** 



## Child Abuse Prevention Month

BE IT REMEMBERED, at a regular meeting of the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, Texas, held on the 7th day of April 2020, on motion made Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, Commissioner of District 1, and seconded by Dr. Elba Garcia, Commissioner of District 4, the following resolution was adopted:

Child abuse and neglect are a public health crisis and community problem, and finding solutions depends upon WHEREAS, the involvement of citizens throughout the community; and

An estimated 235 Texas children, nearly five children a week, died from child abuse in Fiscal Year 2019 and WHEREAS,

In Dallas County 7,362 children, 20 children a day, were confirmed victims of child abuse and neglect and in WHEREAS. Texas 274,276 children, 751 children a day were alleged victims, and 74,589 total Texas children were confirmed child abuse and neglect victims in Fiscal Year 2019; and

WHEREAS, In Dallas County, 1,505 children, approximately four children a day, and 18,615 Texas children were removed from their homes as a result of abuse in Fiscal Year 2019; and

WHEREAS, In Dallas County, 429 children and 6,806 Texas children, as of August 31, 2019 were waiting for adoption; and

Child abuse and neglect can cause children to have costly social problems such as low-weight births, WHEREAS, emergency room visits, and children in the social welfare, mental health, and juvenile corrections systems; and

WHEREAS, Two-thirds of children referred to juvenile delinquency court have some involvement in the social-services system stemming from allegations of abuse, neglect or dependency and for children with two or more offenses in juvenile court, the percentage increases to 90% who have some social services involvement; and

WHEREAS, Effective child abuse prevention programs succeed in part because of partnerships created among federal, state and local officials, medical and social service agencies, non-profits, private foundations, schools, religious organizations, law enforcement, government agencies, the business community, volunteers and families; and

We recognize that most parents endeavor to be good parents and do not abuse their children; and WHEREAS,

WHEREAS, All citizens should become more aware of child abuse and effective prevention programs within the community and become involved in supporting parents and other caregivers to raise their children in a safe, nurturing environment;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Commissioners Court of Dallas County do hereby proclaim April 2020, CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH IN DALLAS COUNTY, and additionally,

THEREFORE , BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Commissioners Court of Dallas County together with the Child Abuse Prevention Month Committee call upon all citizens, legislators, other elected officials, community agencies, religious organizations, medical facilities, schools and businesses to increase their participation in efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect, and advocate for child abuse prevention investment, thereby strengthening the health, safety and productivity of the citizens in the community in which we live

DONE IN OPEN COURT this the 7th day of April 2020.

Clay Lewis Jenkins

County Judge

Dr. Theresa M. Daniel Commissioner, District 1

Commissioner, District 2

John Wiley Price Commissioner, District 3

Dr. Elba Garcia Commissioner, District 4