

# Resolution

ORDER NO: 2021-0318

DATE: April 6, 2021

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF DALLAS §



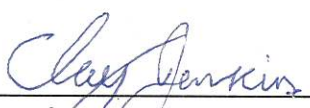
**BE IT REMEMBERED**, at a regular meeting of the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, Texas, held on the 6th day of April 2021 on a motion made by Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, Commissioner of District #1, and seconded by John Wiley Price, Commissioner of District #3, the following Resolution was adopted:

## *Child Abuse Prevention Month*


- WHEREAS**, an estimated 251 Texas children, nearly 5 children a week, died from child abuse in Fiscal Year 2020. Child abuse and neglect are public health crises and a community problem. Finding solutions depends upon the involvement of citizens throughout the community; and
- WHEREAS**, in Texas 253,274 children, 694 children per day, were alleged victims of child abuse and neglect. In Dallas County 7,145 children, 20 children per day, were confirmed victims of child abuse and neglect and 68,461 total children in Texas were confirmed child abuse and neglect victims in Fiscal Year 2020; and
- WHEREAS**, in Dallas County, 1,077 children, approximately three children a day, and 16,522 Texas children were removed from their homes as a result of abuse in Fiscal Year 2020. Additionally, as of August 31, 2020, 407 children in Dallas County and 6,186 Texas children, were waiting for adoption; and
- WHEREAS**, child abuse and neglect can cause children to have costly social problems such as low-weight births, emergency room visits, and children are more likely to become involved in the social welfare, mental health, and juvenile corrections systems. 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%; 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
- WHEREAS**, we recognize that most parents endeavor to be good parents and do not abuse their children. 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. The following organizations work in the community to do just that: Dallas CASA, Family Compass, TexProtects, Dallas Children's Advocacy Center, Catholic Charities, United Way, ChildCare Group, Texas Department of Family Protective Services, and the Texas Welfare Board. Additionally, there so many more who work within their communities every day to support families and children in need.


**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Dallas County Commissioners Court does hereby proclaim April 2021, **Child Abuse Prevention Month in Dallas County**. The Dallas County Commissioners Court, together with the Child Abuse Prevention Month Committee, calls 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 to advocate investment in child abuse prevention. Together, everyone can work to strengthen the health, safety and productivity of the community in which we live.


**DONE IN OPEN COURT**, this the 6th day of April 2021.

  
Clay Lewis Jenkins  
County Judge

  
Dr. Theresa Daniel  
Commissioner, District 1

  
J.J. Koch  
Commissioner, District 2

  
John Wiley Price  
Commissioner, District 3

  
Dr. Elba Garcia  
Commissioner, District 4