Resolution

ORDER NO: 2022-0343

DATE: April 5, 2022

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF DALLAS §



BE IT REMEMBERED, at a regular meeting of the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, Texas, held on the 5th day of April 2021 on a motion made by <u>Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, Commissioner of District 1</u>, and seconded by <u>Dr. Elba Garcia, Commissioner of District 4</u>, the following Resolution was adopted:

Child Abuse Prevention Month

WHEREAS, an estimated 199 Texas children, nearly 4 children a week, died from child abuse in Fiscal Year 2021. Child abuse and neglect are a public health crisis and community problem, and finding solutions depends upon the involvement of citizens throughout the community; and

whereas, in Dallas County 6,679 children, 18 children a day, were confirmed victims of child abuse and neglect and in Texas 193,903 children, 531 children a day were alleged victims, and 68,517 total Texas children were confirmed child abuse and neglect victims in Fiscal Year 2021; and

WHEREAS, in Dallas County, 1,142 children, approximately three children a day, and 16,028 Texas children were removed from their homes as a result of abuse in Fiscal Year 2021 and

WHEREAS, in Dallas County, 304 children and 5,925 Texas children, as of August 31, 2021, 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 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% 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

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

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 the Dallas County Commissioners Court does hereby proclaim April 2022, Child Abuse Prevention Month in Dallas County. 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 5th day of April 2022.

Clay Lewis Jenkins

County Judge Commission

Dr. Theresa Daniel Commissioner, District 1

J.J. Koch
Commissioner, District 2

John Wiley Price Commissioner, District 3 Dr. Elba Garcia Commissioner, District 4