Resolution

ORDER NO. 2025-0349

DATE: April 1, 2025

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF DALLAS §



BE IT REMEMBERED, at a regular meeting of the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, Texas, held on the 1st day of April 2025, on a motion made by Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, Commissioner of District 1, and seconded by Dr. Elba Garcia, Commissioner of District 4, the following Resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS, 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, An estimated 99 Texas children, nearly 2 children a week, died from child abuse in Fiscal Year 2024; and

WHEREAS, In Dallas County 4,889 children, 13 children a day, were confirmed victims of child abuse and neglect and in Texas 181,252 children, 497 children a day were alleged victims, and 53,543 total Texas children were confirmed child abuse and neglect victims in Fiscal Year 2024; and

WHEREAS, In Dallas County, 775 children, approximately two children a day, and 9,220 Texas children were removed from their homes as a result of abuse in Fiscal Year 2024; and

WHEREAS, In Dallas County, 171 children and 4,145 Texas children, as of August 31, 2024, 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; 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

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 we, the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, do hereby proclaim April 2025, CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH IN DALLAS COUNTY, and additionally,

BE IT FURTHER 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 1st day of April 2025

Clay Lewis Jenkins

District 3

County Judge

Dr. Theresa M. Daniel

District 1

Andrew Sommerman

District 2

John Wiley Price

Dr. Elba Garcia
District 4