



WHEREAS, every family and child is filled with tremendous promise, and will have a collective responsibility to prevent Adverse Childhood Experiences, foster the potential of every child and promote positive childhood experiences; and

WHEREAS, positive childhood experiences (PCEs) – such as loving caregivers and safe, stable and nurturing relationships – play a vital role in helping children thrive by mitigating trauma and the negative impact of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs); and

WHEREAS, families who receive the support they need before a crisis occurs are better equipped to provide safe, healthy, and nurturing environments, leading to children who are safer, healthier and more hopeful about their futures; and

WHEREAS, childhood trauma, including abuse and neglect, can have long-term psychological, emotional and physical effects throughout the lifetime and impact the future generations; and

WHEREAS, primary prevention of child abuse and neglect can reduce the lifetime economic burden associated with child maltreatment; and

WHEREAS, strengthening families through access to concrete economic, social and community-based supports reduces the likelihood of abuse and neglect to ensure children have the foundations for lifelong well-being; and

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention activities succeed because of the partnerships created between child welfare professionals, education, health, community and faith-based organizations, businesses, law enforcement agencies and families; and

WHEREAS, communities must make every effort to promote programs and activities that create strong and thriving children; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge that we must work together as a community to increase awareness about child abuse and contribute to promoting the social and emotional well-being of children and families in a safe, stable and nurturing environment; and

WHEREAS, investments in prevention initiatives – such as home visiting programs, family – strengthening policies, economic support and community-based child abuse prevention efforts- are essential to building safer, healthier communities for children and families; and

WHEREAS, prevention remains the best defense for our children and families.

NOW, THEREFORE, The Mayor of the City of Arkansas City, Kansas, does hereby proclaim the **APRIL 2025** as

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

in Arkansas City. Together we can create a state where every child can grow up happy, healthy and safe with hope for their future.

In witness thereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused this seal to be affixed:

*Name/Title: Chad D. Beeson, Mayor
Date: April 1, 2025*