



**PROCLAMATION
OF THE CITY OF DRIPPING SPRINGS
PROCLAIMING APRIL 2024, AS**

“Child Abuse and Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month”

WHEREAS, 6.3 million Texans have experienced some form of sexual assault in their lifetime and more than **63, 989** cases of child abuse and neglect were confirmed in Texas in 2023 resulting in 9,962 children in foster care in Texas and the death of 173 children in Texas in 2023; and

WHEREAS, 2 in 5 women and 1 in 5 men in Texas have been sexually assaulted in their lifetime affecting all races, ages, genders and economic situations, and 286 children were confirmed victims of abuse in Hays county in 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Hays-Caldwell Women’s Center provided direct services to **616** adult victims of sexual assault in Hays and Caldwell Counties last year; and

WHEREAS, representatives from Hays County Child Protective Board, Hays County District Attorney’s Office, Hays-Caldwell Women’s Center and Roxanne’s House, Greater San Marcos Youth Council, Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), San Marcos, Buda and Kyle Police Departments, Hays County Sheriff’s Office, and Christus Santa Rosa- San Marcos have joined forces to provide preventive and supportive services to child victims and their families; and

WHEREAS, efforts to reduce child abuse and sexual assault can only be successful through citizen involvement, and the safety of the citizens of the City of Dripping Springs depends upon our actions to end child abuse and sexual assault; and

WHEREAS, the City of Dripping Springs is intolerant of sexual violence in any form and recognizes that education and awareness may prevent sexual assault and every child in Dripping Springs deserves to be safe, nurtured and supported in caring relationships.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the City of Dripping Springs City Council:

1. That April 2024 shall be known as “Child Abuse and Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month” in the City of Dripping Springs, Texas; and
2. That citizens of Dripping Springs are encouraged to work together to raise awareness and prevent child abuse and sexual assault in our community and beyond.

Mayor Bill Foulds, Jr.