



PROCLAMATION

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH, APRIL 2025

- WHEREAS:** Children are critical to Effingham's future success, prosperity, and quality of life. While children are our most valuable resources, they are also our most vulnerable. Children have a right to be safe and an opportunity to thrive, learn, and grow in an environment that fosters healthy development; and
- WHEREAS:** Child abuse and neglect can be prevented by supporting and strengthening Effingham's families, thus preventing the far-reaching effects of maltreatment and providing the opportunity for children to develop healthy, trusting family bonds, and consequently, building the foundations of communities; and
- WHEREAS:** Effectively intervening in the lives of children threatened by abuse is shared responsibility, and Effingham's citizens must come together so that the voices of our children are heard by all. We all must ensure that our communities are extending helping hands to children and families in need; and
- WHEREAS:** Effective child abuse prevention strategies succeed because of partnerships created among citizens, human service agencies, schools, faith communities, health care providers, civic organizations, the **Effingham County Exchange Club**, law enforcement agencies, and the business community; and
- WHEREAS:** By providing a safe and nurturing environment for our children, free of violence, abuse and neglect, we can ensure that Effingham County's children will grow to their full potential as the next generation of leaders, helping to secure the future of this county, state and nation; now
- THEREFORE:** We the Effingham County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim April 2025 as **Child Abuse Prevention Month** in Effingham County, Georgia and urge families and communities to become involved in protecting Effingham's children.

Presented this 15th day of April, 2025.



DAMON RAHN – *Chairman at Large*

FORREST FLOYD – *1st District*

ROGER BURDETTE – *2nd District*

JAMIE DELOACH – *3rd District*

BETH HELMLY – *4th District*

PHIL KIEFFER – *5th District*