



Proclamation

RECOGNIZING APRIL 2026 AS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

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; Georgia ranks 39th nationally in Child-Well-Being; 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 2026, as CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH in Effingham County GEORGIA and urge families and communities to become involved in protecting Effingham’s children.

In witness thereof, I, DAMON RAHN Chairman of the Effingham County Commissioners, have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Effingham County Commission to be affixed this 21st day of April in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-six



- 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