



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, there are about 1.9 million youth aged 17 and under, living in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that one in 100 children experiences abuse; and

WHEREAS, childhood maltreatment and abuse are traumatic events that increase an individual's adverse childhood experiences, which, without intervention, can result in life-long negative emotional, physical, financial, educational and social health outcomes; and

WHEREAS, child abuse is a significant public health crisis; and

WHEREAS, all children deserve to be nurtured, protected and free from physical or emotional harm; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey and the New Jersey Department of Children and Families believes that healthy families raise healthy children; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey is committed to offering a continuum of community-based child abuse prevention and intervention programs that are culturally competent, strength-based and family-centered; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Children and Families embraces the Standards for Prevention Programs developed by the New Jersey Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect; and

WHEREAS, as noted by the US Administration for Children and Families' 2020 review of child protective services across the United States, the rate at which children are maltreated in New Jersey is lower than the national average; and

WHEREAS, in New Jersey, the rate at which children continue to be maltreated following an initial child welfare intervention is significantly lower than the national average; and

WHEREAS, the rate at which New Jersey relies on out of home placement as an intervention to keep children safe is amongst the lowest in the United States; and

WHEREAS, all sectors of the community, including law enforcement, medical professionals, schools, courts and media outlets, as well as numerous public and private agencies, have joined forces to promote public awareness and community involvement in keeping children and their families safe, healthy and connected during the month of April and throughout the year;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip D. Murphy, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim:

APRIL 2022
AS
CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND AWARENESS
MONTH

in New Jersey.



GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this twenty-one day of March in the year two thousand twenty-two, the two hundred forty-sixth year of the Independence of the United States.


Lt. GOVERNOR


GOVERNOR