



Supporting Children and Strengthening Families: Prevention in Partnership

Buchanan County Volunteer Services, Inc. and Operation Threshold

Supporting children and strengthening families in Buchanan County requires commitment from all community members.

Therefore, the City of Independence, Iowa along with Buchanan County Volunteer Services Inc., Buchanan County's Child Abuse Prevention Council, and Operation Threshold proclaim April 2024 as the month of Supporting Children and Strengthening Families: Prevention in Partnership.

We call upon all community members and partners to participate as we proclaim:

- Our children are our most valuable resource and will shape the future of Buchanan County;
- Protecting our children is everyone's business and we can promote and support safe, nurturing, and healthy families;
- Child abuse and neglect is a community problem as is involvement in finding solutions;
- Successful prevention is due to partnerships among child welfare professionals, education, health entities, community and faith-based organizations, businesses, law enforcement, and families;
- Providing support and uplifting communities, families, and individuals to ensure our children can be raised in safe, loving and healthy environments;
- We recognize the child welfare workforce and allies who work tirelessly to protect our children;
- We honor the strength and resilience of adult survivors of abuse and neglect;
- We call upon everyone in our county to stand together to support children and strengthen families.
- Prevention remains the best defense for our children and families.

THEREFORE, I, Brad Bleichner, Mayor of Independence, Iowa, do hereby proclaim April 2024 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Buchanan County, Iowa, and urge all citizens to recognize this month by dedicating themselves to supporting our children, strengthening families, and improving the quality of life for all children and families.

Brad Bleichner, Mayor of the City of Independence, IA

Date