



Office of the Mayor City of Jackson, Missouri

Proclamation

WHEREAS: Child well-being is a shared responsibility; and

WHEREAS: Children are the foundation for a prosperous and innovative society, and the foundation for a child's growth and development is established when every community and Missourian takes responsibility for creating healthy environments where our children can thrive; and

WHEREAS: Missouri supports the Strengthening Families Protective Factors that reduce child maltreatment through encouraging Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development, Parental Resilience, Social Connections, Concrete Supports for Parents, Social and Emotional Competence of Children, and Nurturing and Attachment; and

WHEREAS: A child's early experience of being nurtured and developing a bond with a consistent, caring adult affects all aspects of behavior and development and is associated later in life with better academic grades, healthier choices, better health, positive peer interactions, and an increased ability to cope with stress; and

WHEREAS: Missouri recognizes the responsibility of every adult to protect children from all forms of child abuse, including child sexual abuse, and recognizes the importance for all adults, youth-serving organizations, schools and communities to form protective barriers around children; and

WHEREAS: Effective child abuse prevention programs are essential and succeed because of community partnerships created among citizens, social service agencies, schools, businesses, health facilities, law enforcement agencies, faith-based organizations, civic organizations and other child serving agencies; and

WHEREAS: Go Blue Day is Saturday, April 1, 2023. Everyone is encouraged to wear blue to build awareness about the importance of **Strong Families, Safe Kids** and the prevention of child abuse and neglect; inspire change by focusing on community activities and public policies that prioritize prevention; and promote the social and emotional well-being of children and families in safe, stable, nurturing environments.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Dwain L. Hahs, Mayor of the City of Jackson, do hereby proclaim the month of April, 2023, as

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Seal of the City of Jackson, Missouri this third day of April, 2023.



Mayor Dwain L. Hahs

