

# Proclamation

## *Child Abuse Prevention Month April 2024*

- WHEREAS,** *Lake City's future prosperity depends on nurturing the healthy development of the children currently residing in Lake City; and*
- WHEREAS,** *the abuse and neglect of children can cause severe, costly and lifelong problems, including physical and mental health problems, school failure and criminal behavior, which affect all of society; and*
- WHEREAS,** *research shows that parents and caregivers who have social networks and know how to seek help in times of trouble are more resilient and better able to provide safe environments and nurturing experiences for their children; and*
- WHEREAS,** *individuals, businesses, schools, and faith-based and community organizations must make children a top priority and take action to support the physical, social, emotional and educational development and competency of all children; and*
- WHEREAS,** *children deserve the opportunity to grow and thrive in healthful environments, free from threats of violence and harm; and*
- WHEREAS,** *during the month of April, public and private-sector agencies, child care professionals, child advocates, and residents will be increasing the public's awareness of child abuse and neglect prevention.*

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor Stephen M. Witt, of the City of Lake City, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2024 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in the City of Lake City and in so doing urge all citizens to join me in observing this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.**



*In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused this seal to be affixed this 1<sup>st</sup> day of April 2024.*

*Stephen M. Witt*  
Stephen M. Witt, Mayor  
City of Lake City