

# PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, every year thousands of Georgia children are abused or neglected by their caretakers; and

**WHEREAS**, the Division of Family and Children Services is the state agency whose job is to step in and protect children from further damage; and protect strong families.

**WHEREAS**, Child Protective Services staff in Lamar County are dedicated to meeting the needs of children and improving family life; and building a prevention network of individuals, dedicated to preventing child abuse and neglect in all its forms.

**WHEREAS**, April is national Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month. This event raises awareness of the role that caring connections play in strengthening communities. Each year, we encourage local community groups to generate public attention to raise people's awareness of the campaign.

**WHEREAS**, the 50 Pinwheels that are on display outside the Lamar County Court House this month represent the number of substantiated cases of Child Abuse and Neglect in Lamar County in 2023. The purpose of the pinwheels is a reminder to everyone that child abuse and neglect is a serious issue that is around us every day.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, help us celebrate the importance of social connections and join our work to strengthen social well-being, key indicator of overall health, and an essential factor in preventing child abuse and neglect. We the Board of Commissioners of Lamar County do declare and proclaim the month of April 2023, as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Lamar County and urge all our citizens to work together to make this year a safer one for children in our community.

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**Ryran Traylor-Chairman**

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**Nancy Thrash-Vice-Chairman**

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**Jarrold Fletcher-Commissioner**

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**Jason Lovett-Commissioner**

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**Ashley Gilles-Commissioner**

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ **Carlette Davidson-County Clerk**