

**Town of Moncks Corner,
Berkeley County, South Carolina
Proclamation
Child Abuse Prevention Month**

- WHEREAS,** South Carolina's future prosperity and quality of life depend on the healthy development of the more than 1.1 million children residing in the diverse communities across our state; and 55,416 in Berkeley County; and
- WHEREAS,** preventing child abuse and neglect must be a priority that requires individuals, families, child-serving organizations, schools, faith-based groups, businesses, government agencies, and civic leaders to support the physical, emotional, social, and educational well-being of all children; and
- WHEREAS,** child abuse is a serious public health issue with wide-ranging societal consequences, as data show the link between the abuse and neglect of children and a wide range of costly medical, emotional, psychological, and behavioral issues into adulthood; and
- WHEREAS,** parents and caregivers who have a support system of family and friends, know where to find public resources, and understand how to remain resilient in challenging times are best-equipped to provide safe, nurturing environments for their children; and
- WHEREAS,** statewide and community prevention programs serve as proven and effective ways to reduce child abuse and neglect no matter the geographic region, race or ethnicity, or economic status; and
- WHEREAS,** in fiscal year 2023-2024, there were 7,498 substantiated Child Protective Services (CPS) investigations with 13,290 children in South Carolina, and 372 investigations with 676 children in Berkeley County.
- WHEREAS,** In 2024 Kay Phillips Child Advocacy Center saw 1,764 total children, and 911 in Berkeley County.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor Thomas J. Hamilton, Jr., and Town Council Members of the Town of Moncks Corner, in the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 2025 as

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

throughout the Town and encourage all South Carolinians to dedicate themselves to protect the quality of life for every child.

Signed this 8th Day of April, 2025

Thomas J. Hamilton, Jr., Mayor