



CITY OF ROCHELLE, ILLINOIS
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
PROCLAMATION

Child Abuse Prevention Month

WHEREAS, every child deserves to grow up in a nurturing environment, free from abuse, neglect, violence or endangerment of any kind; and

WHEREAS, in Illinois, over 45,000 reports of suspected child abuse and neglect were filed in 2023 alone, with more than 13,000 confirmed cases of abuse and neglect impacting children throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention and advocacy programs succeed because of partnerships created amongst courts, social service agencies, schools, religious organizations, local governments, law enforcement, and the business community; and

WHEREAS, Shining Star Children's Advocacy Center plays a crucial role in our community by providing support to child victims of abuse and their families, ensuring that children have a safe and caring environment to begin the healing process; and

WHEREAS, all citizens should become aware of child abuse within the community and to become involved in its prevention and supporting parents and caregivers to raise children in a safe, and nurturing environment;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John Bearrows, Mayor of the City of Rochelle, do hereby proclaim **April 2025** as **CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH** and urge all citizens to actively participate in preventing child abuse, raising awareness, and supporting local organizations to strengthen our community and protect every child.

Dated this 14th day of April 2025

John Bearrows, Mayor

Attest:

RoseMary Huéramo, City Clerk

