



**CITY OF SWEENY
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

Children are our nation's, state's and city's next generation of leaders and the brightest rays of hope for the future. Every responsible person will agree that children deserve to grow up in a nurturing environment free from harm and fear. Sadly, child abuse – physical, sexual or emotional – is far too common in our society. In 2018 alone, the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services confirmed more than 66,000 of the 281,000 reported cases where children were victims of abuse or neglect.

Across our city, county, state and nation, children's advocacy groups, nonprofit organizations, social workers and government agencies work daily to stop this crime through education and awareness. Through their compassion and dedication, they create safe, happy and healthy environments for children to grow and thrive.

Every year since 1983, the month of April is dedicated to raising awareness of the pervasiveness of child abuse and promoting the safety and well-being of all children.

At this time, I encourage our great city to renew our commitment to preventing child abuse, to learn the signs and to honor our duty as stewards of our youth to report any suspicions of abuse. We can all work toward a brighter future and help our children grow up and flourish in "A City With Pride."

Therefore, I, Dusty Hopkins, Mayor of Sweeny Texas, do hereby proclaim April 2024, to be

Child Abuse Prevention Month

in Sweeny, and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this the 19th day of March 2024.

Mayor Dusty Hopkins