

**BY THE WALTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF GEORGIA
A PROCLAMATION
CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH**

WHEREAS: Children are our most valuable resource, and they are also our most vulnerable. All of Georgia's children have a right to be safe and an opportunity to thrive, learn, and grow in **an environment that fosters healthy development; and**

WHEREAS: Child abuse and neglect can be prevented by supporting and strengthening Georgia's families, thus preventing the far-reaching effects of maltreatment, and providing the opportunity for children to develop healthy, trusting family bonds, and consequently, building the foundations of communities; and

WHEREAS: Positive childhood experiences (PCES) — like loving caregivers and safe, stable, and nurturing relationships — can help mitigate trauma and the negative impact of adverse childhood experiences (ACES) to promote the social, emotional, and developmental well-being of children; and

WHEREAS: Effective child abuse prevention strategies succeed because of partnerships created within communities among citizens, human service agencies, schools, faith communities, health care providers, civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business sector, inspiring action from expected and unexpected partners in prevention; and

WHEREAS: By providing a safe, stable, and nurturing environment for our children, free of violence, abuse, and neglect, we can ensure that Georgia's children will grow to their full potential as the next generation of leaders, helping to secure the future of this state and nation; now

THEREFORE: I, DAVID THOMPSON, Chairman of Walton County Board of Commissioners in the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim April 2024, as CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH in Walton County in the State of Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Walton County, Georgia this [] day of April 2024.

SEAL

David G. Thompson, Chairman,
Board of Commissioners,
Walton County, Georgia