



Office of the Mayor

Proclamation



hereas:

RECOGNIZING CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH, 2023

WHEREAS, all children of our community have the right to live and grow in a safe, secure and supportive environment; enter school prepared to succeed; be able to choose healthy behaviors and grow to successful adulthood; and

WHEREAS, we the leaders of this community acknowledge that those rights are not always available to all children and although there has been significant progress to increase the safety and security of our children, we renew our commitment to protecting our most valuable resource; and

WHEREAS, during 2022, Lake County Children Service responded to nearly 1,700 calls regarding children and their families and as a result, Children Services worked with approximately 1,000 children who presented with a variety of issues which could not be easily resolved; and

WHEREAS, over 100 foster families, adoptive families, relatives and other alternative caregivers provided a safe environment for children who were unable to be in their family home; and

WHEREAS, statistics show that a great majority of children who have died from child maltreatment in the State of Ohio, were under the age of five years old, thus never having a chance to attend kindergarten; and statistics further show that survivors of child abuse and neglect, are at a greater risk for problems later in life that affect not just the child and family, but our society as a whole; and

WHEREAS, the best prevention of child abuse can only be done if we, both as a society and as individuals, take responsibility to offer parents and families the support and tools they need to provide healthy nurturing homes for their children.

THEREFORE, we shall declare April as Child Abuse Prevention Month in the City of Willowick, Ohio, and urge citizens of our community to join with us to become involved in activities this month and all through the year, to raise the awareness of child abuse and to focus our attention on providing safe environments for children and foster confident, positive parents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name and cause the Great Seal of the City of Willowick to be affixed, this 4th day of April 2023.

MAYOR MICHAEL J. VANNI
CITY OF WILLOWICK