

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA**

RESOLUTION 2023 –

WHEREAS, Florida’s future prosperity depends on nurturing the healthy development of over four million children currently living, growing, and learning within our many diverse communities; and

WHEREAS, children are the community’s greatest asset and should be educated, recognized, cherished, nurtured, and acknowledged as such by all; and

WHEREAS, the abuse and neglect of children can cause severe, costly, and lifelong problems affecting all of society, including physical and mental health problems, school failure, and criminal behavior; and

WHEREAS, research shows that parents and caregivers who have social networks and know how to seek help in times of trouble are more resilient and better able to provide safe environments and nurturing experiences for their children; and

WHEREAS, Hernando County has seen an increase in the severity of child abuse cases over the last year, and there were more than 3,000 children in our county who were the subject of child abuse investigations; and

WHEREAS, during the month of April, Prevent Child Abuse Florida, in collaboration with the Children’s Advocacy Center of Hernando County, a program of Mid Florida Community Services, Inc., will be engaging communities throughout Florida in a coordinated effort to prevent child abuse and neglect by promoting awareness of healthy child development, positive parenting practices and the types of concrete support families need within their communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HERNANDO COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The Board of County Commissioners hereby proclaim April 2023 as **CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH** in Hernando County.

SECTION 2. The Board of County Commissioners encourage all residents to engage in activities whose purpose is to strengthen families and communities to provide the optimal environment for healthy child development.

ADOPTED in Regular Session this 11th day of April 2023, A.D.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Attest:

Douglas A. Chorvat, Jr.
Clerk of Circuit Court & Comptroller

John Allocco
Chairman

Jerry Campbell
Commissioner

Elizabeth Narverud
Vice Chairman

Brian Hawkins
Commissioner

Steve Champion
Second Vice Chairman