

City of Gainesville, Florida
Office of Mayor Harvey L. Ward, Jr.
PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Alachua County's future prosperity depends on nurturing the healthy development of the children currently residing in Alachua County; and

WHEREAS, the abuse and neglect of children can cause severe, costly, and lifelong problems, including physical and mental health problems, school failure and criminal behavior, which affect all of society; 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, individuals, businesses, schools, faith-based, and community organizations must make children a top priority and take action to support the physical, social, emotional, educational development, and competency of all children; and

WHEREAS, children deserve the opportunity to grow and thrive in healthy environments, free from threats of violence and harm; and

WHEREAS, during the month of April, public and private-sector agencies, child care professionals, child advocates, and residents will be increasing the public's awareness of child abuse and neglect prevention.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Harvey L. Ward, Jr., by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim April, 2023 as

Child Abuse Prevention Month

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our neighbors to join me in recognizing this special month.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this 16th day of March, A.D., 2023.




Harvey L. Ward, Jr.
Mayor