

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

# Proclamation

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

WHEREAS, the abuse and neglect of children can cause severe, costly, and lifelong problems. This includes physical and mental health problems, school failure, and criminal behavior, which all affect 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 organizations, and community organizations must make children a top priority and take action to support the physical, social, emotional, and educational development of all children; and

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

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

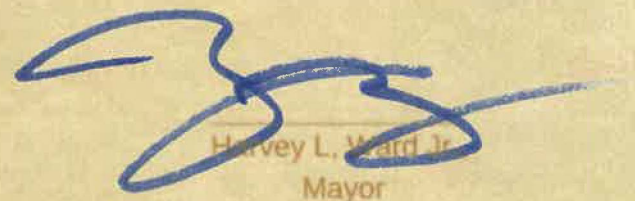
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Harvey L. Ward, Jr., by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim April, 2024 as

## Child Abuse Prevention Month

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

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this 8th day of April 2024.



  
Harvey L. Ward Jr.  
Mayor