

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR  
POLK COUNTY, OREGON**

In the Matter of Proclaiming )  
The Month of April, 2023 )  
As Child Abuse Prevention Month )

**PROCLAMATION NO. 23-02**

**WHEREAS**, Oregon’s future prosperity depends on nurturing the health and development of over 1 million children currently living, growing and learning within our many diverse communities; and

**WHEREAS**, research shows that safe and nurturing relationships and engaging and stable environments improve brain development and child well-being, while neglectful or abusive experiences and unstable or stressful environments increase the odds of poor childhood outcomes; 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**, individuals, businesses, schools, and faith-based and community organizations must make children a top priority and take action to support the physical, social, emotional and educational development and competency of all children; and

**WHEREAS**, during the month of April, Polk County along with community partners will be engaging families in a coordinated effort to prevent child abuse and neglect by promoting awareness of healthy child development, positive parenting practices and concrete support families need within their communities through a month of play and family friendly activities,

**NOW THEREFORE, THE POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS DO HEREBY PROCLAIM** the month of April 2023 as **CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH** and urge all residents to engage in activities whose purpose is to strengthen families and communities to provide the optimal environment for healthy child development.

Dated this day of March 28th 2023, at Dallas, Oregon.

**POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

  
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Jeremy Gordon, Chair

  
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Lyle Mordhorst, Commissioner

  
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Craig Pope, Commissioner