



State of Missouri
Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, children are the state's most precious and valuable resource and the future of Missouri; and

WHEREAS, 47 children in Missouri died from abuse or neglect in 2020 and the Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline received 63,460 reports of abuse or neglect in 2020; and

WHEREAS, every child in Missouri deserves to thrive and live safely in a home free from physical, sexual, and emotional abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, the safety and well-being of children relies on Missourians reporting concerns about a child to the Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline which operates 24-hours a day, every day of the year; and

WHEREAS, every Missourian can take steps to help strengthen and empower families; and

WHEREAS, one of the best ways to reduce the risk of child abuse and neglect is to ensure parents and caregivers have the knowledge, skills, support, and resources they need to care for children; and

WHEREAS, communities have a great influence on the lives of Missouri children and families and can be a valuable resource during tough times; and

WHEREAS, child abuse prevention focuses on supporting positive parenting practices, promoting parent education for healthy child development, and providing quality child care and education early in life.

NOW THEREFORE, I Michael L. Parson GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby proclaim April 2021 to be

MISSOURI CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, this 1st day of April, 2021.



Michael L. Parson
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE