



STATE OF MISSOURI
Proclamation
BY THE GOVERNOR

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

WHEREAS, 27 Missouri children died from inflicted injury at the hands of a parent or caretaker in 2024 and the Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline received 64,497 reports of abuse or neglect in 2024; 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 great influence on the lives of Missouri children and families and can be a valuable resource during tough times; and

WHEREAS, child abuse prevention emphasizes the importance of families and communities working together to strengthen families to prevent child abuse and neglect.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MIKE KEHOE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby proclaim April 2026 to be

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

in Missouri.

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 24th day of March 2026.



Michael Kehoe
Mike Kehoe
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Denny Hoskins
SECRETARY OF STATE