



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH IN FLORIDA

WHEREAS, Florida is committed to improving the lives of all Floridians and securing a better future for the citizens of this state; and

WHEREAS, children who experience adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) are at a higher risk of short and long-term physical, psychological, and behavioral challenges that can impact the individual child and the greater community; and

WHEREAS, parents and caregivers who have resources and support are better equipped to provide safe and nurturing experiences for their children; and

WHEREAS, children have better mental health and physical health and academic success when they are raised in a safe, stable, and nurturing environment; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Children and Families works in collaboration with state agencies, Community-Based Care providers, nonprofit organizations, behavioral health providers, and private industry partners to strengthen supports for families and the system of care; and

WHEREAS, in September 2021, First Lady Casey DeSantis launched "Hope Florida – A Pathway to Prosperity," an initiative that helps vulnerable families overcome barriers through referrals to local partners to help them thrive together; and

WHEREAS, during the month of April, Prevent Child Abuse Florida, in collaboration with the Florida Department of Children and Families and The Ounce of Prevention Fund of Florida, implements Pinwheels for Prevention, a statewide coordinated campaign to raise awareness of child abuse prevention efforts by teaching about healthy child development and positive parenting practices, and establishing Circle of Parents peer support groups; and


WHEREAS, Child Abuse Prevention Month provides everyone a chance to learn how they can play a role in preventing abuse and neglect, including adverse childhood experiences; and

WHEREAS, Child Abuse Prevention Month reminds Floridians of all ages that they can help children increase positive childhood experiences, which lead to happier, healthier childhoods.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ron DeSantis, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend my support to all observing April 2022, as *Child Abuse Prevention Month in Florida*.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this 1st day of April, in the year two thousand twenty-two.



Governor