



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH IN FLORIDA

WHEREAS, Florida's bright future depends on the healthy development of its children; and

WHEREAS, the abuse and neglect of children can cause severe and costly consequences for children, families, and society as a whole; and

WHEREAS, every child has a right to a safe, healthy, and happy childhood where they are educationally and developmentally on track; and

WHEREAS, research shows that parents and caregivers who have support systems 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, it is vital that individuals, businesses, schools, and community organizations 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, Prevent Child Abuse Florida, in collaboration with the Governor's Office of Adoption and Child Protection, the Florida Department of Children and Families, and the Ounce of Prevention Fund of Florida, implement Pinwheels for Prevention; and

WHEREAS, Pinwheels for Prevention is a statewide coordinated campaign aimed to increase awareness of child abuse prevention efforts by encouraging healthy child development, positive parenting practices, and community support; and

WHEREAS, the blue and silver pinwheel displays in this campaign are used to symbolize the health and happiness all children deserve; and

WHEREAS, Child Abuse Prevention Month is an important opportunity to urge all Floridians to engage in activities that strengthen families and communities, and that provide the optimal environment for healthy child development;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ron DeSantis, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend my support to all observing April 2019 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 nineteen.



Governor