



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH IN FLORIDA

WHEREAS, Florida is committed to protecting our most vulnerable and ensuring our children grow up safe, healthy, educated, and prepared to reach their full potential; and

WHEREAS, Floridians can work together to build strong communities and provide support to children and families across our state; and

WHEREAS, children who face adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), including child abuse and neglect, are at a higher risk of enduring short and long-term physical, psychological, and behavioral challenges which can impact both the individual and society as a whole; and

WHEREAS, parents and caregivers who possess higher levels of social supports and use effective strategies to cope with stress are better able to provide safe environments and nurturing experiences for their children; and

WHEREAS, children raised in safe, stable, and nurturing environments are more likely to enjoy good physical and mental health, succeed academically and socially, and achieve economic prosperity; and

WHEREAS, consistent and effective prevention strategies will save lives, protect resources, and strengthen and preserve Florida's families; and

WHEREAS, as Chair of the Florida Children and Youth Cabinet and through her "Hope for Healing Florida" program, First Lady Casey DeSantis is working alongside state agencies to improve the health, safety, economic stability, and quality of life of our 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, implements Pinwheels for Prevention, a statewide coordinated campaign 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 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.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ron DeSantis, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend my support to all observing April 2021, 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-one.



Governor