



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, child abuse and neglect is a serious problem, and finding solutions depends on involvement among all people in the community; and

**WHEREAS**, approximately 3 million children are reported abused and neglected in the United States each year; and

**WHEREAS**, the effects of child abuse and neglect are felt by whole communities, and need to be addressed by the entire community; and

**WHEREAS**, Prevent Child Abuse Tennessee, the Tennessee Child Abuse Prevention Network, and the Tennessee Children's Trust Fund are sponsoring several events throughout the month of April to heighten public awareness of abuse and neglect in communities around the state; and

**WHEREAS**, these events will provide information and materials that support families to prevent child maltreatment and celebrate people who work with and support children and families; and

**WHEREAS**, a statewide "Pinwheels for Prevention" campaign will be launched through the media, public schools, libraries, social service agencies, and businesses during the month of April to celebrate and bring awareness of the great potential of all children in Tennessee and the need to strengthen all families with support and nurturing; and

**WHEREAS**, the "Pinwheels for Prevention" campaign includes the planting of Pinwheel Gardens statewide celebrating community partnerships for strengthening the family and protecting all children from abuse and neglect; and

**WHEREAS**, effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships created among social service agencies, schools, religious and civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community; and

**WHEREAS**, all citizens should become more aware of the negative effects of child abuse and its prevention within the community, and become involved in supporting parents to raise their children in a safe, nurturing environment;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2015 as

*Child Abuse Prevention Month*

in Tennessee and encourage all citizens to join me in this worthy observance.



**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed at Nashville on this ninth day of February, 2015.

*Bill Haslam*

Governor

*Joe Rye*

Secretary of State