



STATE OF TENNESSEE

# PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, One of Tennessee's most valuable resource is its children, and they deserve every possible opportunity to grow and develop to their full potential; and

**WHEREAS**, child abuse and neglect is one of the greatest risks to the health and well-being of Tennessee's children; and

**WHEREAS**, there were more than 60,000 reports of child abuse and neglect in Tennessee last year; and

**WHEREAS**, the effects of child abuse and neglect are felt by whole communities; and

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

**WHEREAS**, the state Department of Children's Services, in conjunction with other agencies and programs across the state, is working to prevent child abuse and neglect by promoting healthy families, protecting children, and supporting communities;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the month of April, 2012 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 29th day of March, 2012.

Governor

Secretary of State