



STATE OF TENNESSEE

# PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, it is important to support families providing safe, nurturing environments for their children, giving them the opportunity to grow up in permanent and stable families and to become caring, contributing members of the community; and

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

**WHEREAS**, child abuse and neglect affect both the current and future quality of life of a community by increasing the likelihood of criminal behavior, substance abuse, teen pregnancy, and physical and mental health problems in children that have been the victims of abuse, neglect or abandonment; and

**WHEREAS**, child maltreatment occurs when people find themselves in stressful situations without a proper support system, and are unable to cope; and

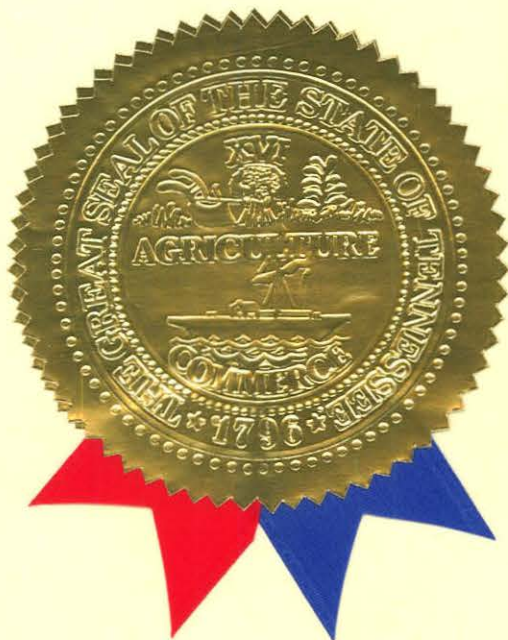
**WHEREAS**, many child abuse cases stem from situations and conditions that are preventable in an engaged and supportive community; and

**WHEREAS**, child abuse and neglect can be prevented by making sure each family has the support they need to raise their children in a healthy environment;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim September 21, 2012, as

## TENNESSEE CARES FOR KIDS DAY

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 twentieth day of September, 2012.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Bill Haslam".

Governor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Joe Hight".

Secretary of State