



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, child abuse is a serious problem affecting every segment of our community, and finding solutions requires the involvement of all Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, every child is filled with tremendous promise and deserves to grow up in a safe, nurturing environment free from harm and fear, where they can develop physically, emotionally, and socially to reach their full potential; and

WHEREAS, positive childhood experiences (PCEs) such as loving caregivers and stable and nurturing relationships, play a vital role in helping children thrive by mitigating trauma and the negative impact of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs); and

WHEREAS, families who receive prevention services before a crisis occurs are better equipped to provide healthy environments, leading to children who more hopeful about their futures; and

WHEREAS, childhood trauma, including abuse and neglect, can have long-term psychological, emotional, and physical effects throughout an individual's lifetime and impact future generations; and

WHEREAS, strengthening families through access to concrete economic, social, and community-based supports reduces the likelihood of abuse and neglect and promotes a foundation for lifelong well-being; and

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships between social service agencies, education, health, community and faith-based organizations, businesses, law enforcement agencies, and families; and

WHEREAS, community support is essential to the success of programs and activities that promote strong and thriving children and families; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee is committed to protecting our children and ending child abuse through advocacy, education, and investment in prevention initiatives;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim
April 2026 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 sixteenth day of March 2026.

Bill Lee

Governor

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Secretary of State