



STATE OF TENNESSEE
P R O C L A M A T I O N
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 this country each year with nearly 17,000 children here in Tennessee 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 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 has been 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" across the state, 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, 2016 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 sixth day of January, 2016.

Bill Haslam

Governor

Jae W. Hargett

Secretary of State