

*State of South Carolina*  
*Proclamation*  
*by*  
*Governor Jim Hodges*

**WHEREAS,** every child needs and deserves a safe, permanent and nurturing home; and

**WHEREAS,** each year more than 1 million children in the United States are confirmed victims of child abuse and neglect, and the suffering they endure poses a threat to families and society; and

**WHEREAS,** the intensity and frequency of child abuse and neglect is escalating across our state; and

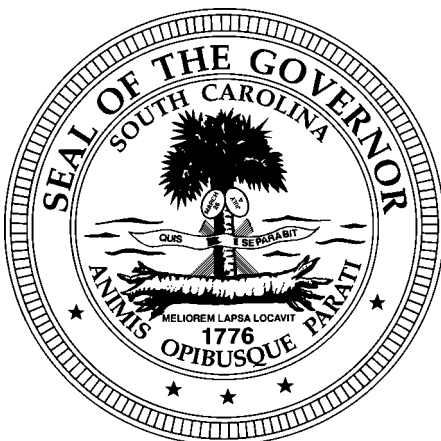
**WHEREAS,** primary prevention efforts help prevent child abuse and neglect by encouraging and supporting young families; and

**WHEREAS,** the 2002 observance of "Child Abuse Prevention Month" provides a unique opportunity for communities throughout the Palmetto State to team up to ensure the safety of our children in their homes through the collaboration of public, private, and corporate sectors.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I,** Jim Hodges, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim April, 2002, as

**CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH**

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to prevent child abuse and neglect in an effort to keep our children safe.



*Jim Hodges*

**Jim Hodges**  
**Governor**  
**State of South Carolina**