

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, every child deserves to grow up in a safe, loving, and stable family free from verbal, sexual, emotional, and physical abuse, exploitation, and neglect that violate a child's dignity, security, and stability; and

WHEREAS, child maltreatment continues to be one of our nation's most serious public health problems, with over three million children reported as abused or neglected in our country each year; and

WHEREAS, children who are abused, neglected, or abandoned by their parents are at a significant risk of entering the foster care system or suffering from a wide range of medical, emotional, psychological, and behavioral challenges; and

WHEREAS, the prevention of child abuse and neglect is a community issue that depends on the involvement of individuals, organizations, and government agencies to provide education, skills training, and support for parents in areas including child development, basic care skills, discipline strategies, and goal setting; and

WHEREAS, by strengthening families and providing safe, stable, and nurturing environments free from violence, abuse, and neglect, opportunities are created for children's optimal growth and success, helping to ensure secure futures for our children, families, and communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nikki R. Haley, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 2015 as

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to protect the children of the Palmetto State by supporting our families and strengthening the communities in which we live.



Handwritten signature of Nikki R. Haley in black ink.

NIKKI R. HALEY
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA