CITY OF BREVARD, NORTH CAROLINA

Proclamation

N0. 2026-07
Child Abuse Prevention Month

WHEREAS, children are our state's most vulnerable members as well as our state's most valuable resources, helping to shape the future of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, positive childhood experiences (PCES)—like loving caregivers and safe, stable, and nurturing relationships—can help mitigate trauma and the negative impact of adverse childhood experiences (ACES) to promote the social, emotional, and developmental well-being of children; and

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

WHEREAS, childhood trauma, including abuse and neglect, is a serious problem affecting every community, and finding solutions requires input and action from everyone; and

WHEREAS, children who live in families with access to concrete economic and social supports are less likely to experience abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, nurture positive childhoods and preventing child maltreatment is possible because of the partnerships created between families, prevention advocates, child welfare professionals, education, health, community, and faith-based organizations, businesses, law enforcement agencies, and local, state, and national governments; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge that in order to solve the public health issue of abuse and neglect we must work together to change hearts and mindsets through storytelling and sharing, center the needs of families, break down bias and barriers, and inspire action from expected and unexpected partners; and

WHEREAS, we are committed to advancing equitable, responsive, and effective systems that ensure all children and families are healthy and thriving; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the need to prioritize kids and invest in more prevention initiatives like home visiting and family-strengthening policies, economic supports, and community-based child abuse prevention programs at the national, state, and local levels; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Maureen Copelof, Mayor of the City of Brevard do hereby proclaim April as **CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH** and urge all citizens to recognize this month by building a narrative of hope for children and families through collaboration and the creation of an ecosystem of primary prevention that does not currently exist in this country.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and executed the Great Seal of the City of Brevard on this the 20th day of April, 2026.

ATTEST:

Denise Hodsdon

Denise Hodsdon, CMC, NCCMC
City Clerk

CITY OF BREVARD, NC
88 BEAUTIFUL BREVARD
INDUSTRY · FLOWERS · RECREATION · OPPORTUNITY · ARTS · EDUCATION
CORPORATE SEAL

Maureen Copelof

Maureen Copelof
Mayor