PROCLAMATION
CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2026

WHEREAS, children's healthy development and well-being is a priority for our county and children need safe, stable, and nurturing families, schools, and communities; and

WHEREAS, childhood trauma, including abuse and neglect, is a serious problem affecting communities across our state and has long-term negative effects on children, families, and future generations; and

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

WHEREAS, nurturing positive, healthy childhoods and preventing child maltreatment requires action by all Burke County residents and is achieved through partnerships built among families, prevention advocates, child welfare professionals, schools, health care providers, community and faith-based organizations, businesses, law enforcement agencies, and local, state, and national governments; and

WHEREAS, in order to solve the public health issue of abuse and neglect we must work together to ensure all children and families are healthy and thriving and invest more in effective child abuse prevention initiatives and family-strengthening policies and supports.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Burke County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim April 2026 as **"CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH"** in Burke County, North Carolina, and commends its observance to all citizens.

Approved this 20th day of April 2026.

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Jeffrey C. Brittain, Chairman
Burke County Board of Commissioners