



STATE OF TEXAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

The true measure of a people is found not only in their strength or prosperity but also in their commitment to protecting the vulnerable. Every child is a precious gift, endowed with boundless potential and deserving a safe, nurturing home life, but tragically, for far too many young Texans, childhood is marked by fear and hardship rather than joy and security as a consequence of abuse. Annually, there are upwards of 50,000 confirmed cases of abuse and neglect in our state. In each heartbreaking instance, an innocent child is denied compassionate care and is dealt lasting emotional, psychological, or physical wounds.

Throughout Texas history, the State has exerted serious, sustained effort to prevent abuse and respond appropriately when it rears its head. We have strengthened and reformed child protection programs; expanded support services for families in crisis; and provided relevant resources for law enforcement. Ultimately, though, government alone cannot solve this problem; it is a responsibility we all share. Accordingly, we must be ever ready to lend a helping hand to a child in distress, and we must strive to create a culture of safety and decency. As Governor of Texas and as a father myself, I urge all Texans to join this worthy cause and to help make justice a reality for vulnerable children.

Communities from the Gulf Coast to the High Plains have risen to the occasion and launched life-changing initiatives. Today, schools implement programs and procedures related to abuse; churches and nonprofits mentor at-risk youth; and child welfare organizations constantly expand their reach and impact. These efforts signal a veritable sea change in our society, and they remind us that when Texans work as one, any challenge can be overcome.

Each year, the month of April is set aside to shed light on child abuse, to spark a statewide dialogue about this pressing matter, and to recognize ongoing prevention efforts. As we reflect upon this deeply sobering issue, may we all reaffirm our commitment to children, to survivors of abuse, and to advocates. During Child Abuse Prevention Month and hereafter, we fix our eyes on a future in which all children know the love, stability, and security they so rightly deserve—and we will not rest until it is a reality.

Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim April 2025 to be

Child Abuse Prevention Month



in Texas and urge all Texans to observe the occasion with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto affixed my signature this the 27th day of February, 2025.

A handwritten signature of Greg Abbott in black ink.

Governor of Texas