

FORSYTH COUNTY

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING DATE: APRIL 1, 2021 AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 8

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING APRIL 2021 AS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH IN FORSYTH COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION OR COMMENTS:

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION:

ATTACHMENTS: yes no

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____
COUNTY MANAGER

**RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING APRIL 2021
AS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH IN
FORSYTH COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**

WHEREAS in Federal fiscal year 2019, approximately 2.4 million reports were made to child protective service agencies across the country;

WHEREAS child abuse and neglect are serious problems affecting every segment of our community, and finding solutions requires input and action from everyone in our community;

WHEREAS our children are our most valuable resource and will shape the future of the world and Forsyth County;

WHEREAS child abuse can have long-term psychological, emotional, and physical effects that have lasting consequences for victims of abuse;

WHEREAS protective factors are conditions that reduce or eliminate risk and promote the social, emotional, and developmental well-being of children;

WHEREAS effective child abuse prevention strategies succeed because of the partnerships created between child welfare, education, health care, community, faith-based organizations, businesses and law enforcement agencies;

WHEREAS communities must make every effort to promote programs and activities that create strong and thriving children and families;

WHEREAS we acknowledge that we must work together as a community to increase awareness about child abuse and collectively advocate for the social, emotional and well-being needs of children and families to thrive in safe, stable, and nurturing environments;

WHEREAS prevention services, community wide education and proactive partnerships are productive strategies to address child abuse in our community; and

WHEREAS within Forsyth County, there are active partnerships between several community partners to proactively address child abuse including, the Forsyth County Department of Social Services and Public Health, the Parenting Path, the Guardian ad Litem program, Family Services, Wake Forest Baptist Hospital, Novant Hospital, Cardinal Innovations, the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School System, the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office, the Winston-Salem Police Department, and the Forsyth County District Attorney's Office, which all comprise the Community Child Protection Team and the Child Fatality Prevention Team in Forsyth County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners hereby recognizes April 2021 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Forsyth County and encourages all citizens, community agencies, faith-based groups, and medical facilities to increase participation in the efforts of the Forsyth County Department of Social Services to prevent child maltreatment and strengthen the communities in which we live.

Adopted this 1st day of April 2021.