



## *Child Abuse Prevention Month*

**WHEREAS**, IN TEXAS A CHILD IS ABUSED OR NEGLECTED EVERY EIGHT MINUTES, AND LAST YEAR MORE THAN 150 TEXAS CHILDREN, INCLUDING TWO IN COLLIN COUNTY, DIED FROM SUCH CRIMES, AND

**WHEREAS**, LAST YEAR MORE THAN 225,000 CHILDREN ACROSS TEXAS, INCLUDING OVER 4,400 FROM COLLIN COUNTY, WERE REPORTED AS ABUSED OR NEGLECTED, AND

**WHEREAS**, CHILD ABUSE VICTIMS ARE AT GREATER RISK OF DELINQUENCY, TEEN PREGNANCY, SUBSTANCE ABUSE, LOW ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT, MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS AND BECOMING ABUSERS THEMSELVES, PERPETUATING THIS CYCLE OF VIOLENCE FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION, AND

**WHEREAS**, COLLIN COUNTY GOVERNMENT PLAYS A DAILY, ACTIVE ROLE IN FIGHTING CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN AT THE CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER WITH DEDICATED COLLIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S INVESTIGATORS, AND PROSECUTORS FROM THE CRIMINAL DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, AND

**WHEREAS**, EFFECTIVE CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAMS SUCCEED THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCIES, SCHOOLS, FAITH ORGANIZATIONS, LAW ENFORCEMENT AND THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY, AND

**WHEREAS**, COLLABORATIVE ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS THE CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER OF COLLIN COUNTY ARE LEADING THE WAY TOWARD A SAFER COMMUNITY FOR ALL CHILDREN, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHOSE YOUNG LIVES HAVE BEEN MARKED BY ABUSE OR NEGLECT;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, WE, THE COLLIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM THE MONTH OF APRIL 2014 TO BE **CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH** IN COLLIN COUNTY, AND URGE ALL CITIZENS TO WORK TOGETHER TO REDUCE CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT SIGNIFICANTLY IN YEARS TO COME.

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**Keith Self, County Judge**

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**Mark Reid, Commissioner, Pct. 1**

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**Cheryl Williams, Commissioner, Pct. 2**

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**Chris Hill, Commissioner, Pct. 3**

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**Duncan Webb, Commissioner, Pct. 4**