



Proclamation

WHEREAS, in the United States, nearly 700,000 children are victims of abuse and neglect every year and in Hawai'i, the child abuse and neglect rate is about 4.8 per 1,000 children; and

WHEREAS, every child in the State of Hawai'i deserves to grow up in a safe and nurturing environment; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect lead to a broad range of short-term and long-term physical and emotional health consequences such as damage to a child's growing brain, depression, and anxiety; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect are preventable when parents, families, communities, and government agencies work together to advocate for safe environments for all children; and

WHEREAS, family-oriented, community-based prevention, awareness and education programs that increase the well-being of children and families help prevent abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, education and public awareness efforts, such as the Pinwheels for Prevention, Wear Blue Day, and Family Story Time succeed because of the collaboration to work toward a common goal; and

WHEREAS, partnerships among human service and public health agencies, law enforcement, first responders, medical community, military, public and private schools, faith and civic organizations, businesses and concerned citizens make solutions possible; and

WHEREAS, Prevent Child Abuse Hawai'i, Department of Health, Child Abuse Prevention Planning Council, and a coalition of public and private service agencies sponsor an array of activities in April to focus on positive solutions for parents and caregivers to prevent child abuse and neglect;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, JOSHUA B. GREEN, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim April 2019 as

"CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in supporting continued collaborative efforts toward effective child abuse and neglect prevention and awareness and make a year-round commitment to stop child abuse and neglect before it starts.

Done at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this eleventh day of March 2019.



JOSHUA B. GREEN
Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai'i



DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i