

# PROCLAMATION

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## Child Abuse Prevention Month April 2023

WHEREAS, each April, we renew our commitment to preventing child abuse and rededicate ourselves to working together to ensure all children can have a bright and hopeful future; and

WHEREAS, victims of child abuse have an increased likelihood of health problems, poor education performance, substance abuse, early pregnancy, and criminal behavior; and

WHEREAS, no socioeconomic group is immune to child abuse and children of all races and ethnicities can be victims of child abuse; and

WHEREAS, during 2021, there were 466 substantiated cases of child abuse and neglect in Linn County and 18 Oregon children died from causes related to familial/caregiver abuse and/or neglect. 12 of those children were 5 years old or younger, and 8 were less than one year old; and

WHEREAS, effective prevention programs succeed through partnerships of community groups that help parents provide a safe and nurturing environment; and

WHEREAS, preventing child abuse and neglect is a problem that can only be addressed by involving people throughout a community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Alexander D. Johnson II, Mayor of the city of Albany, Oregon, do hereby proclaim April 2023 as

### Child Abuse Prevention Month

in Albany, and call upon all citizens, community agencies, religious organizations, medical facilities, and businesses to increase their participation in efforts to recognize and prevent child abuse.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Albany to be affixed this 22nd day of March 2023.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alexander D. Johnson II".

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Alexander D. Johnson II, Mayor