

# PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, Child Abuse Prevention Month is recognized each April to raise awareness on the widespread problem of child abuse and neglect; and

**WHEREAS**, child abuse, which includes neglect, emotional maltreatment and physical, sexual or emotional abuse, is a harmful childhood experience that can have long-term, detrimental effects on a child's development, as well as their mental and physical health; and

**WHEREAS**, child abuse is preventable when parents, families, community partners and government agencies work together to advocate for safe environments for all children and increase access to services; and

**WHEREAS**, all children have the right to grow up in a caring, stable and nurturing environment, and it is our shared mission to ensure that all children can grow up healthy, ready to learn and able to thrive; and

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

**WHEREAS**, communities are encouraged to promote programs and activities that benefit children and their families. It is important to work together to increase awareness about child abuse and support the social and emotional well-being of children and families in a safe, stable and nurturing environment.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Randy Sparacino, Mayor of Medford, do hereby proclaim April as

## CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

in the City of Medford and urge citizens to join in activities that promote awareness.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF,  
I hereunto set my hand this  
4<sup>th</sup> day of April 2024.



Randy Sparacino  
Mayor

