

**DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF APRIL AS
CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH
IN THE CITY OF COLONIAL HEIGHTS, VIRGINIA**

WHEREAS, our children are our most valuable resource, and need our help to grow socially and emotionally into responsible, productive, community-minded adults; and

WHEREAS, finding solutions to child abuse depends on involvement throughout the community to protect all of our children, to respond to abuse, and to support and promote healthy families; and

WHEREAS, the emotional, psychological, and physical effects of child abuse and neglect have immediate, as well as, long-term impact on the family, the community, and future generations; and

WHEREAS, children raised in safe and nurturing homes strengthen our City, and all citizens should be partners in helping to prevent child abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, our City's partners in prevention include social service agencies, schools, faith based and civic organizations, law enforcement, court services, and the business community whose goal is to provide services that are appropriate and trauma informed; and

WHEREAS, parents have the most influence on their children's development, need community support to be successful as parents, and need continuing education while negotiating the challenges of parenting; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, T. Gregory Kochuba, Mayor of the City of Colonial Heights, do hereby proclaim the month of April as *Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month* in the City of Colonial Heights and encourage all citizens to help in protecting our community's children.

Signed this 11th day of April 2023.

T. Gregory Kochuba, Mayor

ATTEST:

Pamela B. Wallace, City Clerk