## Alachua County Florida A Proclamation

## Declaring April 2024 as "Child Abuse Prevention Month" in Alachua County, Florida

Whereas.

Whereas,	Alachua County's future prosperity depends on nurturing the healthy development of the children currently residing in Alachua County; and
Whereas,	the abuse and neglect of children can cause severe, costly, and lifelong problems, including physical and mental health problems, school failure and criminal behavior, which affect all of society; and
Whereas,	research shows that parents and caregivers who have social networks and know how to seek help in times of trouble are more resilient and better able to provide safe environments and nurturing experiences for their children; and
Whereas,	individuals, businesses, schools, and faith-based and community organizations must make children a top priority and take action to support the physical, social, emotional, and educational development and competency of all children; and
Whereas,	children deserve the opportunity to grow and thrive in healthful environments, free from threats of violence and harm; and
Whereas,	during the month of April, public and private-sector agencies, childcare professionals, child advocates, and residents will be increasing the public's awareness of child abuse and neglect prevention.
Commissioners o	<b>fore,</b> through the authority vested in me by the Board of County f Alachua County, Florida, I do hereby proclaim April 2024, as "Child Abuse" in Alachua County, Florida.
Duly proclaimed this 9th day of April, A.D., 2024.	
	BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ALACHUA COUNTY FLORIDA
	By: Mary C. Alford, Chair
ATTEST:	
J.K. "Jess" Irby, Esq.	