

# Alachua County Florida

## A Proclamation

### Declaring April as “Child Abuse Prevention Month” in Alachua County, Florida

**Whereas,** prevention is possible. With the right policies and investments, families and children can thrive and avoid contact with child welfare; and

**Whereas,** every family and child are filled with tremendous promise, and we all have a collective responsibility to prevent Adverse Childhood Experiences, foster the potential of every child, and promote Positive Childhood Experiences; and

**Whereas,** families who receive the support they need before a crisis occurs are better equipped to provide safe, healthy, and nurturing environments, leading to children who are safer, healthier, and more hopeful about their futures; and

**Whereas,** childhood trauma, including abuse and neglect, can have long-term psychological, emotional, and physical effects throughout an individual’s lifetime and impact future generations; and

**Whereas,** strengthening families through access to concrete economic, social, and community-based supports and services reduces the likelihood of abuse and neglect and ensures children have the foundation for lifelong well-being; and

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

**Whereas,** communities must make every effort to promote programs and activities that create strong and thriving children and families; and

**Whereas,** we acknowledge that we must work together as a community to increase awareness about child abuse and contribute to promoting the social and emotional well-being of children and families in a safe, stable, and nurturing environment; and

**Whereas,** investments in prevention initiatives are essential to building safer, healthier communities for children and families; and

**Whereas,** prevention remains the best defense for our children and families.

**Now, therefore,** through the authority vested in me by the Board of County Commissioners of Alachua County, Florida, I do hereby proclaim April, as “Child Abuse Prevention Month” in Alachua County, Florida.

Duly proclaimed this 28 day of April, A.D., 2026

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF ALACHUA COUNTY FLORIDA

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ken Cornell, Chair

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
J.K. “Jess” Irby, Esq., Clerk