March 21, 2022

WHEREAS, our children are our most valuable resources and will shape the future of Iowa; and together we can support safe, healthy families in our community by partnering to protect children; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect is a serious problem that can be prevented and the cost of preventing child abuse is significantly lower than the cost of treating the impacts of it; and research continually shows that preventing child abuse and other Adverse Childhood Experiences drastically reduces the number of major health crises facing our country; and

WHEREAS, all members of a community benefit from creating conditions that support strong and healthy families; and communities must make every effort to promote programs and activities that create strong and thriving children and families; 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, we acknowledge that we must work together as a community to increase awareness of child abuse and to ensure that each family has the support and education they need in raising their children in a safe, stable, and nurturing environment so that we may promote the social and emotional well-being of our children by reducing the risk of child abuse;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Dave Dotts, Chair of the Wayne County Board of Supervisors, do hereby proclaim the month of April as **CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH** in Wayne County and urge all citizens to recognize this month by dedicating ourselves to the task of improving the quality of life for all children and families.

Dave Dotts, Chair

Wayne County Board of Supervisors

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ATTEST:

Michelle Dooley, Auditor

Wayne County