



# Proclamation

## By the Governor of Alabama

*WHEREAS, preventing child abuse and neglect is a community problem that depends on involvement among people throughout the community; and*

*WHEREAS, child maltreatment occurs when people find themselves in stressful situations, without community resources and don't know how to cope; and*

*WHEREAS, the majority of child abuse cases stem from situations and conditions that are preventable in an engaged and supportive community; and*

*WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect can be reduced by making sure each family has the support they need to raise their children in a healthy environment; and*

*WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect not only directly harm children, but also increase the likelihood of criminal behavior, substance abuse, health problems such as heart disease and obesity and risky behavior such as smoking; and*

*WHEREAS, all citizens should become involved in supporting families in raising their children in a safe, nurturing environment; and*

*WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships created among social service agencies, schools, faith communities, civic organizations, law enforcement agencies and the business community;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim April 2018, as*

## *Child Abuse Prevention Month*

*in the State of Alabama and call upon all citizens, community agencies, faith groups, medical facilities, and businesses to increase their participation in efforts to support families, thereby preventing child abuse and strengthening the communities in which we live.*



*Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the Office of the Governor at the State Capitol in the City of Montgomery on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of March 2018.*

*Kay Ivey*  
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Kay Ivey, Governor