

**RESOLUTION NO. 2025-41**

**A RESOLUTION DECLARING APRIL AS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH IN THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY.**

**WHEREAS**, all children of our community have the right to live and grow in a safe, secure and supportive environment; enter school prepared to succeed; be able to choose healthy behaviors and grow to successful adulthood; and

**WHEREAS**, we the leaders of this community acknowledge that those rights are not always available to all children and although there has been significant progress to increase the safety and security of our children, we renew our commitment to protecting our most valuable resource; and

**WHEREAS**, during 2024, Lake County Children Services responded to over 1,500 calls regarding children and their families and as a result, Children Services worked with approximately 1,000 children who presented with a variety of issues which could not be easily resolved; and

**WHEREAS**, over 100 foster families, adoptive families, relatives, and other alternative caregivers provided a safe environment for children who were unable to be in their family home; and

**WHEREAS**, statistics show that a great majority of children who have died from child maltreatment in the State of Ohio were under the age of five years old, thus never having the chance to attend kindergarten; and statistics further show that survivors of child abuse and neglect are at a greater risk for problems later in life that affect not just the child and family but our society as a whole; and

**WHEREAS**, the best prevention of child abuse can only be done if we, both as a society and as individuals, take responsibility to offer parents and families the support and tools they need to provide healthy nurturing homes for their children;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY, THE COUNTY OF LAKE, AND THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**SECTION 1.** That the Council and Administration of the City of Willoughby hereby declare April, 2025 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in the City of Willoughby and urge the citizens of our community to join with us to become involved in activities this month and all through the year to raise the awareness of child abuse and to focus our attention on providing safe environments for children and fostering confident, positive parents.

**SECTION 2.** It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were conducted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in such actions were conducted in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements including Chapter 107 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Willoughby.

**SECTION 3.** That this Resolution shall be in full force and take effect immediately upon its adoption by Council and its approval by the Mayor, or at the earliest period allowed by law.

Adopted: 4-15-25 John Tamasell  
Vice President of Council

Attest: Alisa Nash  
Clerk of Council

Date: 4.16.25 Approved: Frank Ferris  
Mayor

Submitted to the Mayor for his approval on this 16<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2025.

Alisa Nash  
Clerk of Council