



COUNTY of CLAY

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# Proclamation

## Child Abuse Prevention Month

**WHEREAS**, our children are our most valuable resource and will shape the future of Minnesota and Clay County.

**WHEREAS**, in the year 2023, Clay County Social Services completed 294 assessments and investigations of families and licensed facilities, assessed 339 children for reports of alleged child abuse or child neglect, provided 85 families with child protection/child welfare case management services, and provided care and services for 185 children in out of home placement.

**WHEREAS**, child abuse is a serious problem affecting every segment of our community and can have long-term psychological, emotional, and physical effects that may cause lifelong consequences for victims of abuse.

**WHEREAS**, effective child abuse prevention succeeds because of meaningful and trusting partnerships created between parents, practitioners, schools, faith communities, healthcare organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community.

**WHEREAS**, family-serving, youth-focused prevention programs offer positive alternatives for young people, encourage parents and youth to develop strong ties to their communities as well as provide protective factors that reduce or eliminate risk by promoting social, emotional, and developmental well-being of children.

**WHEREAS**, we acknowledge we must work together as a community to increase awareness about child abuse and contribute to the promotion of children and families social and emotional well-being in safe, stable, nurturing environments.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the *Clay County Board of Commissioners*, do hereby proclaim April, 2024 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Clay County, and call upon all citizens, community agencies, religious organizations, medical facilities, and businesses to increase their participation in efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect, thereby strengthening the communities in which we live.

Adopted this 9<sup>th</sup> day of April 2024.

David Ebinger, Chair  
Clay County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Stephen Larson  
Clay County Administrator