

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Almost 68,000 cases of child abuse and neglect were confirmed in Texas during 2022; and

WHEREAS, One in ten children will experience sexual abuse before their 18th birthday, 98% of child victims will know their alleged perpetrator, and only 10% of new arrests for sex crimes against children involve individuals with prior sex offense records, and

WHEREAS, 354 children living in the City of Lewisville received 3,851 services from the Children's Advocacy Center for North Texas in 2022, and

WHEREAS, Child abuse prevention is a community responsibility and finding solutions depends on involvement among all people, and

WHEREAS, Communities must make every effort to promote and support programs that benefit children and their families, and

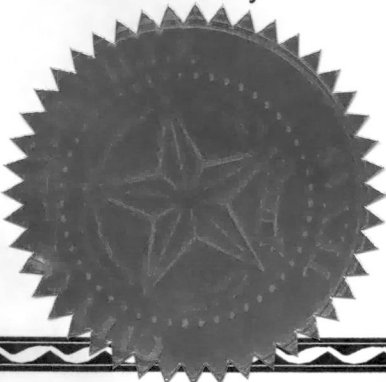
WHEREAS, Effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships among a variety of entities including but not limited to schools, religious organizations, law enforcement agencies, child protective services, prosecution agencies, medical professionals, mental health professionals, children's advocacy centers and other community-based nonprofit organizations; and

WHEREAS, everyone in the community should become more aware of child abuse prevention and consider helping parents raise their children in safe, nurturing environments as well as supporting local professionals dedicated to meeting the needs of child abuse victims,

NOW, THEREFORE, I TJ Gilmore, Mayor of the City of Lewisville, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2023 as.

Child Abuse Prevention Month

and urge all citizens to work together to reduce child abuse and neglect and to significantly improve the response of our community when child abuse occurs in the months and years ahead



TJ Gilmore, Mayor
City of Lewisville