

## **Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation – April 2021**

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 health 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, Mayor Dan Keller of Preston, do hereby proclaim April 2021 to be CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH.

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

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, We have hereunto set our hands this 12<sup>th</sup> day of April, in the year two thousand and twenty-one.

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Daniel M. Keller, Mayor

Attest:

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Linda Acock, City Clerk