



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, April 12, 2022

Council Session

Item C-1

Proclamation "Child Abuse Prevention Month" April 2022

Because all children deserve love, comfortable homes, and tender care from parents and adults who make them feel safe, happy and loved, and because the effects of child abuse are felt by whole communities and need to be addressed by the entire community, the Mayor has proclaimed the month of April, 2022 as "Child Abuse Prevention Month". See attached PROCLAMATION.

Staff Contact: Mayor Roger Steele

THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
City of Grand Island
State of Nebraska

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS, in Federal fiscal year 2020, 3.9 million reports were made to child protective services; and
- WHEREAS, in 2021 First Light Child Advocacy Center interviewed 317 children who were victims of child abuse; and
- WHEREAS, 75% of First Light’s interviews were children who were victims of sexual abuse; and
- WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect is a serious problem affecting every segment of our community, and finding solutions requires input and action from everyone; and
- WHEREAS, child abuse can have long-term psychological, emotional, and physical effects that have lasting consequences for victims of abuse; and
- WHEREAS, protective factors are conditions that reduce or eliminate risk and promote the social, emotional, and developmental well-being of children; and
- WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention activities succeed because of the partnerships created between First Light Child Advocacy Center, child welfare professionals, education, health, community-and faith-based organizations, businesses, law enforcement agencies, and families; and
- WHEREAS, our children are our most valuable resource and will shape the future of the City of Grand Island; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Grand Island must make every effort to promote programs and activities that create strong and thriving children and families, and
- WHEREAS, we acknowledge that we must work together as a community to increase awareness about child abuse and contribute to promote the social and emotional well-being of children and families in a safe, stable, and nurturing environment; and
- WHEREAS, prevention remains the best defense for our children and families.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Roger G. Steele, Mayor of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, do hereby proclaim the month of April, 2022 as

***“NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE
PREVENTION MONTH”***

in the City of Grand Island, and encourage all citizens to recognize this month by dedicating ourselves to the task of improving the quality of life for all children and families.

and

I proclaim and celebrate the week of April 2 – 8, 2022 as the

“WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD”

and encourage all citizens to support and invest in early childhood education.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Grand Island to be affixed this first day of April in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-Two.

Roger G. Steele, Mayor

Attest:

RaNae Edwards, City Clerk