## PROCLAMATION

## Recognizing April 2025 as Child Abuse Awareness & Prevention Month in Guadalupe County

Whereas, in 2024, Texas confirmed over 53,851 cases of child abuse and neglect, and in Guadalupe County alone, there were 253 confirmed victims of child abuse and neglect, underscoring the urgent need for action to protect vulnerable children in our communities; 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, SJRC Texas-Belong, the Guadalupe County Child Welfare Board, Children's Advocacy Centers, Court Appointed Special Advocates, Bikers Against Child Abuse, and other community-based non-profit 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; and

Now, Therefore, Be It Proclaimed that, in official recognition, the Commissioners Court of Guadalupe County hereby proclaims April 2025 as Child Abuse Awareness & Prevention Month in Guadalupe County and urges 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.

In Witness Whereof, we have hereunto set our hand this 25th day of March 2025.

**GUADALUPE COUNTY:** 

Kyle Kutscher County Judge

Jacqueline Ott

Commissioner, Precinct 1

Michael Carpenter Commissioner, Precinct 3 ATTEST:

Teresa Kiel

County Clerk

Drew Engelke

Commissioner, Precinct 2

Stephen Germann

Commissioner, Precinct 4