

**WHEREAS:** Child abuse and neglect is a serious problem affecting every segment

> of our community; and 3,117 cases of child abuse and neglect were investigated by child protective service agencies in Forsyth County in

fiscal year 2023; and

**WHEREAS:** Our children are our most valuable resource and will shape the future

of the world and Forsyth County; and

WHEREAS: Child abuse can have psychological, emotional, and physical effects

that have lasting consequences for victims of abuse; and

WHEREAS: Effective child abuse prevention strategies succeed because of the

> partnerships created between the community, child welfare, education, health care, faith-based organizations, businesses, and law

enforcement agencies; and

**WHEREAS:** We acknowledge that we must make every effort to work together to

> increase awareness about child abuse and collectively advocate for the social, emotional, and physical needs of children and families to thrive

in safe, stable, and nurturing environments in our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, J. ALLEN JOINES, Mayor of the City of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 2024 as

## CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

Given under my hand and seal this 1st day of April, 2024.

 M	ayor	

J. ALLEN JOINES