



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, there are about two million youth aged 17 and younger, living in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that one in 100 children experiences abuse; and

WHEREAS, childhood maltreatment and abuse are traumatic events that increase an individual's adverse childhood experiences, which, without intervention, can result in life-long negative emotional, physical, financial, educational and social health outcomes; and

WHEREAS, child abuse is a public health crisis; and

WHEREAS, all children deserve to be nurtured, protected and free from physical or emotional harm; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey and the New Jersey Department of Children and Families believes that healthy families raise healthy children; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey offers a robust continuum of community-based child abuse prevention and intervention programs that are culturally competent, strength-based and family-centered; and

WHEREAS, as noted by the United States Administration for Children and Families' 2020 review of child protective services across the nation, the rate at which children are maltreated in New Jersey is lower than the national average; and

WHEREAS, in New Jersey, the rate at which children continue to be maltreated following an initial child welfare intervention is significantly lower than the national average; and

WHEREAS, all sectors of the community, including law enforcement, medical professionals, schools, courts and media outlets, as well as numerous public and private agencies, have joined forces to promote public awareness and community involvement in keeping children and their families safe, healthy and connected during the month of April and throughout the year;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip D. Murphy, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim:

APRIL 2023
AS

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND AWARENESS MONTH

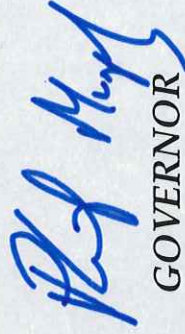
in New Jersey.



GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this twentieth day of March in the year two thousand twenty-three, the two hundred forty-seventh year of the Independence of the United States.



Lt. GOVERNOR



GOVERNOR