

Proclamation

Whereas, Mississippi is ranked 49th in Overall Child Well-Being according to the *2013 Data Book: State Trends in Child Well-Being*; and

Whereas, the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) reported the 2012 national rate of child abuse to be 9.2 child victims per 1,000 children; and

Whereas, NCANDS reported that Mississippi had 10.2 child victims per 1,000 in 2012, up from 9.0 in 2011; and

Whereas, the Mississippi Department of Human Services reported 8,282 unduplicated evidenced child victims from October 2012 to September 2013, up from 7,449 during the previous reporting period; and

Whereas, from October 2012 to September 2013, Harrison, Hancock, and Jackson counties reported 1,568 or 19% of all cases statewide;

Whereas, NCANDS reported that in Mississippi in 2012 only 3,824 or 46.7% of duplicate victims received post-response services; and

Whereas, 49,920 children statewide were reported to have received prevention services; and

Whereas, the National Exchange Child Abuse Prevention Center (CAPC) has been providing prevention and advocacy services for the southern Mississippi counties since 1988; and

Whereas, in 2013 the CAPC served 466 children and 423 non-offending caregivers, and

Whereas, between October 1, 2013-December 31, 2013 the CAPC provided over 364 individual referrals or other services, and

Whereas, of those 364 services, 316 or 87% were in Harrison, Hancock, and Jackson counties,

Therefore, it is resolved that April 2014 will be recognized as the 31st National Child Abuse Prevention Month as set forth by Presidential Proclamation in 1983 in the City of Diamondhead.

Proclaimed by the Mayor and City Council on this the 1st day of April, 2014.



Thomas Schafer, IV
Mayor