

# Resolution

ORDER NO: 2015-0492

DATE: April 14, 2015

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF DALLAS §



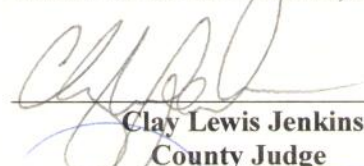
**BE IT REMEMBERED**, at a regular meeting of the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, Texas, held on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2015 on a motion made by Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, Commissioner of District 1, and seconded by Dr. Elba Garcia, Commissioner of District 4, the following Resolution was adopted:


- WHEREAS**, We recognize that most parents endeavor to be good parents and do not abuse their children. The County, community partners and service providers unite in their recognition of the 40th anniversary of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, a historical and significant step in child abuse prevention in the United States. Child abuse and neglect is a community problem and finding solutions depends upon the involvement of citizens throughout the community; and
- WHEREAS**, In Dallas County, 1,616 children, nearly five children a day, and 13,599 Texas children were removed from their homes as a result of abuse during the 2014 Fiscal Year; and
- WHEREAS**, During the 2014 Fiscal Year, 151 Texas children died from child abuse, more than three children a week; and a total of 66,572 Texas children were confirmed victims of child abuse and neglect, 15 children a day. Of those numbers, in Dallas County alone, 14 children died from child abuse and 5,967 children were confirmed victims of child abuse and neglect; and
- WHEREAS**, Consequences of child abuse and neglect include costly social problems such as emergency room visits, increased numbers of children requiring social welfare, mental health, and juvenile corrections systems services. Two-thirds of children referred to the juvenile delinquency court have some involvement in the social-services system stemming from allegations of abuse, neglect or dependency; and for children with two or more offenses in juvenile court, the percentage increases to 89%; and
- WHEREAS**, According to the Centers for Disease Control, "the lifetime cost for each victim of child maltreatment who lived was \$210,012, which is comparable to other costly health conditions such as stroke with a lifetime cost per person estimated at \$159,846 or type 2 diabetes, which is estimated between \$181,000 and \$253,000"; and
- WHEREAS**, It goes without saying that there is still crucial work to be done and that effective child abuse prevention programs succeed in part because of partnerships created among federal, state and local officials, medical and social service agencies, non-profits, private foundations, schools, religious organizations, law enforcement, government agencies, the business community, volunteers and families; and
- WHEREAS**, We urge all citizens to become more aware of child abuse and prevention programs within the community and to become involved in supporting and encouraging parents and other caregivers to raise their children in safe and nurturing environments.

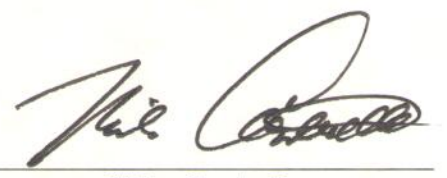
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Dallas County Commissioners Court joins in the designation of the month of April 2015 as **Child Abuse Prevention Month in Dallas County**.

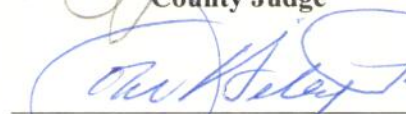
**BE IT FURTHERED RESOLVED** that the Dallas County Commissioners Court, together with the Child Abuse Prevention Month Committee, call upon all citizens, legislators, other elected officials, community agencies, religious organizations, medical facilities, schools and businesses to increase their participation in efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect, and advocate for child abuse prevention investment, thereby strengthening the health, safety and productivity of the citizens in the community in which we live.

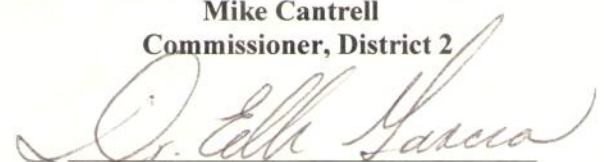
**DONE IN OPEN COURT**, this the 14<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2015.

  
Clay Lewis Jenkins  
County Judge

  
Dr. Theresa M. Daniel  
Commissioner, District 1

  
Mike Cantrell  
Commissioner, District 2

  
John Wiley Price  
Commissioner, District 3

  
Dr. Elba Garcia  
Commissioner, District 4