Child Abuse Prevention Month
Proclamation 2012

Whereas, National Child Abuse Prevention Month will be recognized throughout the United States during the month of April, 2012; and

Whereas, preventing child abuse and neglect is a community problem that depends on involvement among people throughout the community; and

Whereas, approximately 345 children were confirmed to have been abused and neglected in Tom Green County last year.

Whereas, child maltreatment occurs when people find themselves in stressful situations, without community resources, and don't know how to cope; and

Whereas, during periods of economic challenges, families feel more vulnerable, and as a result, child abuse and neglect increases drastically; and

Whereas, child abuse and neglect can be reduced by making sure each family has the support they need to raise their children in a healthy environment; and

Whereas, child abuse is considered to be one of our nation's most serious public health problems with scientific studies documenting the link between the abuse and neglect of children and a wide range of medical, emotional, psychological and behavioral disorders; and

Whereas, all citizens should become involved in supporting families in raising their children in a safe and nurturing environment; and

Whereas, effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships created among state and local government agencies, schools, faith communities, civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community; and

Now, Therefore be it resolved, that I, MICHAEL D. BROWN do hereby proclaim the month of April 2012 Child Abuse Prevention Month in Tom Green County and I urge all citizens, community agencies, faith groups, medical facilities, and businesses to increase their participation in our efforts to support families, thereby preventing child abuse and strengthening our community.

Judge Mike Brown

COUNTY COURT OF TOM GREEN COUNTY, TEXAS