



**Proclamation
Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month
April 2024**

WHEREAS, in Federal fiscal year 2023, the Texas Department of Family & Protective Services confirmed 264,464 victims of child abuse or neglect, including 100 in Llano County; and

WHEREAS, Hill Country Children's Advocacy Center interviewed 44 Llano County children for abuse in 2023; and

WHEREAS, currently there are 22 open court cases involving 36 Llano County children as of this day; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect are a serious problem affecting every segment of our community, and finding solutions requires input and action from everyone in our community; and

WHEREAS, our children are our most valuable resources and will shape the future of Texas; and

WHEREAS, child abuse can have long-term psychological, emotional, and physical effects that can have lifelong consequences for victims, their families; and

WHEREAS, the impact of abuse and neglect has long-term personal, economic and social costs; therefore, hurting Texas' future; and

WHEREAS, protective factors are conditions that reduce or eliminate risk and promote the social, emotional, and developmental well-being of children; and

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention activities succeed because of the meaningful connections and partnerships created between child welfare, education, health, community- and faith-based organizations, businesses, and law enforcement agencies; and

WHEREAS, 8,281 CASA volunteers spoke up for the best interest of 20,169 children in Texas last year; and

WHEREAS, communities must make every effort to promote programs and activities that benefit children and their families; and

WHEREAS, Llano County is fortunate to have the caring members of the Llano County Child Welfare board who work toward improving the quality of lives of victims of child abuse; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge that we must work together as a community to increase awareness about child abuse and contribute to promote the social and emotional well-being of children and families in a safe, stable, nurturing environment; and

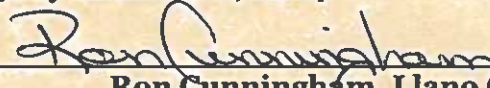
WHEREAS, prevention remains the best defense for children and families; and

WHEREAS, Llano County Child Welfare Board, Child Protective Services, Child Advocacy Centers, foster parents, teachers and others work to ensure that children in our community have a safe, happy future; and

WHEREAS, on April 3, 2024 is "Go Blue Day" to support Child Abuse Awareness by wearing blue;

NOW, THEREFORE, We, Llano County Commissioners Court, do hereby proclaim April 2024 as NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH in Llano, Texas, Llano County, and urge all citizens to recognize this month by dedicating ourselves to the task of improving the quality of life for all children and families and by showing support on April 3, 2024 by wearing blue.

Signed on this 23 day of MARCH, 2024.



Ron Cunningham, Llano County Judge



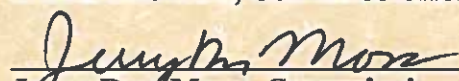
Peter Jones, Commissioner Pct 1




Mike Sandoval, Commissioner Pct 3



Linda Raschke, Commissioner Pct 2



Jerry Don Moss, Commissioner Pct 4
Attest: 
Cecilia McClintock, Interim County Clerk