## NORTH DAKOTA

## = PROCLAMATION ==

## CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH APRIL 2023

WHEREAS, our children are our most valuable resource and will shape the future of North Dakota; and

WHEREAS, childhood trauma, including abuse and neglect, is a serious problem affecting every segment of our community, and finding solutions requires input and action from everyone; and

WHEREAS, childhood trauma can have long-term psychological, emotional and physical effects that have lasting consequences for victims of abuse; 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 partnerships created between child welfare professionals, education, health, community- and faith-based organizations, businesses, law enforcement agencies and families; and

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

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

WHEREAS, prevention remains the best defense for our children and families.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim April 2023, CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH in the State of North Dakota.

Doug Burgum GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Michael Howe SECRETARY OF STATE