



— State of —  
**North Dakota**

*Office of the Governor*

**Doug Burgum**  
*Governor*

PROCLAMATION  
**CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH**  
APRIL 2019

**WHEREAS**, every North Dakotan plays an important role in preventing child abuse and neglect; and

**WHEREAS**, approximately 3 million children are reported abused or neglected in the United States each year; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the North Dakota Department of Human Services, in 2018, there were 16,458 reports of suspected child abuse and neglect in North Dakota, resulting in 2,097 children who were confirmed as victims; and

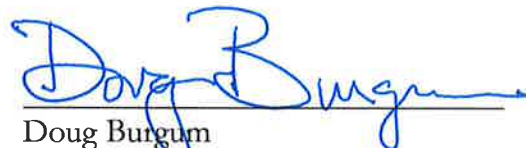
**WHEREAS**, research shows that child abuse and neglect change a child's brain architecture and that the effects of child abuse and neglect can last a lifetime; and

**WHEREAS**, children need safety, comfort and opportunities to learn, grow, and thrive; and

**WHEREAS**, community support helps families raise children in healthy environments and reduces family stressors, making the community a crucial focus of prevention; and

**WHEREAS**, this year's theme, "Do More of What You Love to Create," reflects the work done by communities, schools, faith-based organizations, businesses, non-profits and other partners to promote strong, resilient children and families.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim April 2019, **CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH** in the State of North Dakota.

  
Doug Burgum  
Governor

ATTEST:

  
Alvin A. Jaeger  
Secretary of State