

A resolution by Supervisor Nicholson, declaring April 2017 as Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month, by recommending adoption of the following:

### **A RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, we have a responsibility as a society to nurture and protect our children, and to ensure they become healthy and productive adults; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) ranks child abuse among America's top public health crises, estimating the cost of child maltreatment and related fatalities total \$124 billion a year; and

WHEREAS, the United States Children's Bureau reports that beyond physical injuries, there are long-term consequences of child abuse and neglect, which include cognitive delays, high-risk behaviors, depression, anxiety, poor physical health, alcohol and other drug abuse, juvenile delinquency, adult criminality, and more; and

WHEREAS, in the most recent annual report on child abuse and neglect from the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF), Child Protective Services received a total of 76,442 referrals of alleged child maltreatment in 2015; and

WHEREAS, of the alleged maltreatment referrals, 4,679 children suffered from substantiated maltreatment at a rate of 3.6 children per 1,000 children in Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect can be reduced by making sure each family has the support they need in raising their children in a safe and supportive environment; and

WHEREAS, all communities have the responsibility to offer parents the education, support, and skills they need to provide healthy, safe, and nurturing homes for their children; and

WHEREAS, in one study of maltreatment prevention programming, the CDC found a benefit/cost ratio of \$47 in benefits to society for every \$1 in program costs; and

WHEREAS, in Milwaukee County (the County) there are numerous agencies, parents, relatives, community volunteers, public policymakers, and professionals who are collaborating and committed to eliminating child abuse in the County; and

WHEREAS, because even one child abuse or neglect case is too many, it is important to raise awareness on this issue; and

46 WHEREAS, the Committee on Health and Human Needs, at its meeting  
47 of April 12, 2017, recommended adoption of File No. 17-248 (vote 3-0); now, therefore,  
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49 BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors declares April  
50 as Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month.  
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