

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS: Jacksonville's children are our greatest asset, and all children deserve to have safe, stable, nurturing homes and communities to foster healthy growth and development; and

WHEREAS: To memorialize this commitment, in 1983 President Ronald Reagan proclaimed the month of April as National Child Abuse Prevention Month; and

WHEREAS: Preventing child abuse and neglect is a community responsibility that affects both the current and future quality of life in communities. In 2016, more than 40,000 children in Florida received protective services due to abuse, neglect and/or abandonment; and

WHEREAS: To best ensure all children can grow to their fullest potential, parents need social support, parenting and child development knowledge, and access to resources to help them nurture their children and manage parenting stresses; and

WHEREAS: Effective child abuse prevention strategies succeed because of partnerships created among citizens, human service agencies, schools, faith communities, health care providers, civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, and business communities; and

WHEREAS: One such partner is Family Support Services of North Florida (FSSNF), which leads efforts for foster care, adoption and family preservation in Duval and Nassau counties. FSSNF provides services and programs to help prevent child abuse and neglect, to promote a healthy family environment and to care for our community's children in foster care.

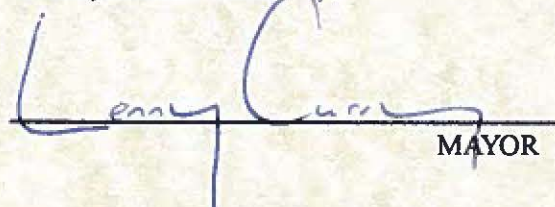
NOW, THEREFORE, I, LENNY CURRY, by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby proclaim April 2018 as

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

in Jacksonville and encourage all citizens, community agencies, faith-based partners, medical facilities, elected leaders and businesses to increase their participation in efforts to support families, thereby preventing child abuse and strengthening our communities.



IN WITNESS THEREOF, this 16th day of March
in the year Two Thousand 18


MAYOR

CITY OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA