



# County Commissioners of Charles County

## PROCLAMATION 2026-19

### National Child Abuse Prevention Month

**WHEREAS**, every child deserves to grow up in a nurturing environment, free from abuse, neglect, violence or endangerment of any kind; and

**WHEREAS**, child abuse and neglect can cause serious harm to a child's development and has lifelong effects that endanger safety, hinder permanency in relationships, and reduces well-being, creating greater demands on society; and

**WHEREAS**, prevention has positive effects on children as it strengthens families and provides a better quality of life for children and is cost effective; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2026 National Child Abuse Prevention Month theme is, "Doing Things Differently" emphasizing proactive efforts to support families and communities, ensuring all children have the opportunity for a bright future; and

**WHEREAS**, safe, stable, and nurturing relationships and communities can break the cycle of abuse and calls for all residents to be watchful and vigilant in protecting children by detecting families in crisis before abuse occurs and reporting abuse when it does occur.

**WHEREAS**, the Charles County Department of Social Services, along with community partners, works diligently to protect children, support families, and promote child welfare through prevention and intervention programs.

**NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND**, do hereby proclaim April 2026, as **National Child Abuse Prevention Month** in Charles County and encourage all residents to become more involved and support programs and activities that strengthen families and benefit children to help prevent child abuse.



### COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., *President*

Ralph E. Patterson, II, M.A., *Vice President*  
*District 4*

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*District 3*

Attest:

John Adelodun, Assistant Clerk to the Commissioners