

**RESOLUTION
PROCLAIMING APRIL 2009 AS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH**

WHEREAS, child maltreatment is a community problem and finding solutions depends on involvement among people throughout the community;

WHEREAS, child maltreatment occurs when parents find themselves in stressful situations without community resources and unable to cope;

WHEREAS, over 100,000 children are reported as abused and neglected in North Carolina each year;

WHEREAS, the majority of child maltreatment cases stems from situations and conditions that are preventable with the help of an engaged and supportive community;

WHEREAS, the effects of child maltreatment are felt by whole communities, and need to be addressed by the community as a whole;


WHEREAS, child maltreatment not only directly harms children, but also increases the likelihood of criminal behavior, substance abuse, health problems such as heart disease and obesity, and risky behavior such as smoking;

WHEREAS, all citizens should be involved in supporting families in raising their children in a safe, nurturing environment;

WHEREAS, effective child maltreatment prevention programs succeed because of partnerships created among human service agencies, schools, faith communities, civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community;

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, do hereby proclaim April 2009, as "**CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH**" in Chatham County, and urge our citizens to support this observance.

Adopted this 6th day of April, 2009.



George Lucier, Chairman
Chatham County Board of Commissioners



Sandra B. Sublett, Clerk to the Board
Chatham County Board of Commissioners