

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, we all have a responsibility as individuals, neighbors, community members and citizens of Millville City to help create healthy, nurturing and safe experiences for children; and

WHEREAS, healthy and safe childhoods help produce confident and successful adults; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect often occur when people find themselves in stressful situations, without community resources, and don't know how to cope; and

WHEREAS, incidences of child abuse and neglect can be reduced by making sure all families have the support they need and deserve to raise their children in healthy environments; and

WHEREAS, **Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)** is authorized by State Statute and Federal Law to help the Court and Child Welfare systems make "best interest" decisions on behalf of children removed from home because of abuse or neglect; and

WHEREAS, CASA volunteer advocates in Millville City help to ensure that abused and neglected children who are placed in foster care and other out-of-home placements are safe and receive the services they need to achieve well-being; and

WHEREAS, CASA advocates reduce the number of moves between placements, help shorten overall times a child remains in placement, and serve as a consistent person in the child's life until that child achieves permanency in a safe home with a loving family;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF MILLVILLE DO HEREBY proclaim the month of April 2020 as Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month and call upon all citizens, community agencies, faith groups, medical facilities, elected leaders and businesses to increase their participation in our efforts to support families, thereby preventing child abuse and strengthening the communities in which we live.

Adopted: April 21, 2020



Michael Santiago

Mayor

W. James Parent

Ashley Udalovas

Joseph Pepitone

Bruce Cooper

Commissioners

Attest:

Jeanne M. Hitchner

City Clerk