



PROCLAMATION

Child Abuse Prevention Month April 2026

WHEREAS, Child Abuse Prevention Month is observed each April to raise awareness of the importance of preventing child abuse and neglect and to affirm our community's shared responsibility to support children and families; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect remain serious public health and social concerns affecting children and families across our region; and

WHEREAS, strong families, supportive relationships, and engaged communities contribute to positive outcomes for children; and

WHEREAS, prevention and early intervention efforts — including education, family support, and community engagement — help strengthen protective factors for children and caregivers; and

WHEREAS, collaborative partnerships among families, schools, community organizations, faith groups, health care providers, law enforcement, and Departments of Social Services enhance our community's coordinated response to child abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs) are codified in the Code of Virginia as part of the Commonwealth's response to child abuse and neglect, serving as the neutral, child-focused setting for forensic interviews, medical examinations, family advocacy, and multidisciplinary team case review; and

WHEREAS, Foothills Children's Advocacy Center has partnered for 20 years with law enforcement, the Department of Social Services, and the Commonwealth's Attorney's Office, conducting an average of more than 300 forensic interviews annually to support criminal investigations and prosecution efforts; and

WHEREAS, this community recognizes the importance of continued awareness, collaboration, and resources to support children and families impacted by abuse;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Supervisors for Greene County, Virginia, do hereby proclaim **April 2026 as Child Abuse Prevention Month** in Greene County and urge all residents, community organizations, businesses, and institutions to renew their commitment to protecting

children, supporting families, increasing awareness of child abuse prevention resources, and participating in activities that promote child well-being.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of Greene County to be affixed this 24th day of March, 2026.

Steve Catalano, Chair
Greene County Board of Supervisors