

Proclamation

by Governor Patrick Morrisey

- Whereas,** each year, the month of April is nationally recognized as *Child Abuse Prevention Month*; and
- Whereas,** West Virginia joins the nation in bringing attention to child abuse prevention and requests a call to action for all parents, communities, and stakeholders to purposefully reduce the number of child abuse and neglect cases in this great state;
- Whereas,** healthy families are the most valuable resource to the future of West Virginia, making identifying and meeting the needs of children and families is critical in preventing the long-term effects and consequences of abuse; and
- Whereas,** strengthening and supporting families can dramatically reduce the threat to child safety and improve well-being outcomes for children and parents; and
- Whereas,** West Virginia is a supportive and empowering state, and is committed to strengthening partnerships between child welfare professionals, public assistance agencies, education, health, the courts, community and faith-based organizations, law enforcement agencies, and those with lived experience to strengthen and support our children and families; and
- Whereas,** West Virginia is committed to shifting the child welfare focus to prevention services to keep children in their homes, where healthy families can be enhanced through community programs, supports, and activities that create stronger, thriving children and families; and
- Whereas,** West Virginians must be resolved to prevent child abuse and neglect by increasing awareness, focusing on prevention services, and being dedicated to nurturing families to promote the safety, permanency, and well-being of children and their caregivers.

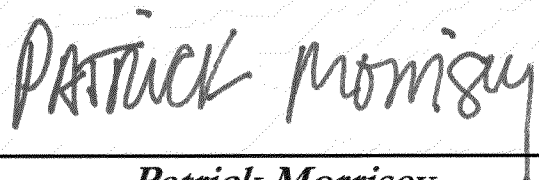
Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Patrick Morrisey, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *April 2025* as:

Family Strengthening and Child Abuse Prevention Month

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to join me in observance.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the First day of April, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Five, and in the One Hundred Sixty-Second year of the State.



Patrick Morrisey
Governor

By the Governor:



Kris Warner
Secretary of State