

PROCLAMATION

National Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month April 2017

WHEREAS, in Federal fiscal year 2015, 4 million reports were made to child protective services; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect is a serious problem affecting every segment of our community, and finding solutions requires input and action from everyone in our community; and

WHEREAS, our children are our most valuable resources and will shape the future of the Village of Oak Park; and

WHEREAS, child abuse can have long-term psychological, emotional, and physical effects that can have lifelong consequences for victims of abuse; and

WHEREAS, protective factors are conditions that reduce or eliminate risk and promote the social, emotional, and developmental well-being of children;

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention activities succeed because of the meaningful connections and partnerships created between child welfare, education, health, community- and faith- based organizations, businesses and law enforcement agencies; and

WHEREAS, communities must make every effort to promote programs and activities that benefit children and their families;

WHEREAS, we acknowledge that we must work together as a community to increase awareness about child abuse and contribute to promote the social and emotional well-being of children and families in a safe, stable, nurturing environment, as prevention remains the best defense for our children and families;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Anan Abu-Taleb, President of the Village of Oak Park and the Board of Trustees, do hereby proclaim April, 2017 as NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT PREVENTION MONTH in the Village of Oak Park and urge all citizens to recognize this month by dedicating ourselves to the task of improving the quality of life for all children and families.

DATED this 13th day of March, 2017.

ATTEST:

Anan Abu-Taleb, Village President

Teresa Powell, Village Clerk