## **CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH**

WHEREAS, Florida's bright future depends on the healthy development of its children; and

WHEREAS, the abuse and neglect of children can cause severe and costly consequences for children, families, and society as a whole; and

WHEREAS, every child has a right to a safe, healthy, and happy childhood where they are educationally and developmentally on track; and

WHEREAS, research shows that parents and caregivers who have support systems and know how to seek help in times of trouble are more resilient and better able to provide safe environments and experiences for their children; and

WHEREAS, during the months of April, Prevent Child Abuse in Florida, in collaboration with the Governor's Office of Adoption and Child Protection, the Florida Department of Children and Families, and the Ounce of Prevention Fund of Florida, implement Pinwheels for Prevention; and

WHEREAS, Pinwheels for Prevention is a statewide coordinated campaign aimed to increase awareness of child abuse prevention efforts by encouraging healthy child development, positive parenting practices, and community support; and

WHEREAS, the blue and silver pinwheel displays in this campaign are used to symbolize the health and happiness all children deserve; and

WHEREAS, Child Abuse Prevention Month is an important opportunity to urge all Floridians to engage in activities that strengthen families and communities, and that provide the optimal environment for healthy child development; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Belleair desires to support this campaign and urges all citizens of our community to support these efforts;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GARY H. KATICA, Mayor of the Town of Belleair, Florida, Commission do hereby proclaim April 2019 as Child Abuse Prevention Month.

> GIVEN under our hand and the seal of the TOWN OF BELLEAIR, FLORIDA, this 16th day of APRIL, A.D., 2019.