

# STATE OF MICHIGAN



Executive  
Office

Jennifer M. Granholm  
Governor

## CERTIFICATE OF PROCLAMATION

On behalf of the citizens of Michigan, I, Governor Jennifer M. Granholm,  
do hereby proclaim the month of April 2009

### Child Abuse Prevention Month

**Whereas,** In 2008, more than 29,000 children were abused or neglected in the state of Michigan; and,

**Whereas,** Nationally, it is estimated that more than 1,500 children die each year from child abuse or neglect; and,

**Whereas,** During periods of economic challenges, families feel more vulnerable, and as a result, child abuse and neglect increases drastically; and,

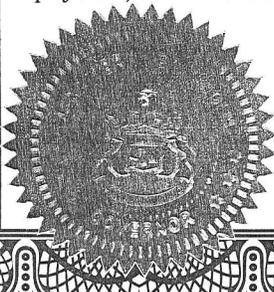
**Whereas,** Child abuse is considered to be one of our nation's most serious public health problems with scientific studies documenting the link between the abuse and neglect of children and a wide range of medical, emotional, psychological and behavioral disorders; and,

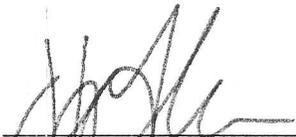
**Whereas,** Research shows that for every \$1 spent on child abuse and neglect prevention, \$34 will not be spent on publicly funded crisis-oriented programming such as protective services, foster care, special education, and counseling; and,

**Whereas,** Warning signs of child abuse or neglect include nervousness, aggression, inability to concentrate for long periods of time, sudden dramatic changes in personality, acting out sexually, frequent or unexplained injuries, low self-esteem, and poor hygiene; and,

**Whereas,** "The Power of One" is a statewide initiative under the leadership of the Children's Trust Fund that asserts the power of one person, one community, one dollar, and one action to protect children from abuse and neglect;

**Now, Therefore, be it Resolved,** That I, Jennifer Granholm, governor of the state of Michigan, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2009 Child Abuse Prevention Month in Michigan. I urge all citizens to join me in protecting Michigan's children by providing them a safe environment free from physical, sexual and emotional abuse.



  
Jennifer M. Granholm  
Governor