

Proclamation

Office of the Mayor
City of Springdale

- WHEREAS:** Child maltreatment is a national tragedy, cutting across racial, ethnic, and socio economic boundaries and endangering our most precious resource and greatest responsibility: our children; and
- WHEREAS:** It is disturbing to note that approximately three million children are reported abused and neglected in this country each year, and in Arkansas, according to the Department of Human Services, 6,288 complaints involving 8,834 children were found to be valid last year; and
- WHEREAS:** Children have the right to feel safe in their own homes and to be provided every opportunity to learn, grow, and thrive; child abuse violates a child's dignity, security, vulnerability, and humanity; and
- WHEREAS:** We can join together as individuals, organizations, and government agencies to prevent child abuse in our State by providing education, skills training, and support and by raising awareness of relevant topics, including child development, basic-care skills, discipline strategies, and goal-setting for parents; and
- WHEREAS:** By strengthening families and providing safe, stable, and nurturing environments that are free from violence, abuse, and neglect, opportunities are created for children's optimal growth and success, ensuring a secure future for our communities, where the needs of children are a priority and the needs of families are met; and
- WHEREAS:** The City of Springdale in conjunction with concerned citizens throughout the Nation, designates the month of April as Child Abuse Prevention Month to protect future generations by providing help and hope to our children and families;
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Doug Sprouse, Mayor of Springdale, Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim April 2013, as

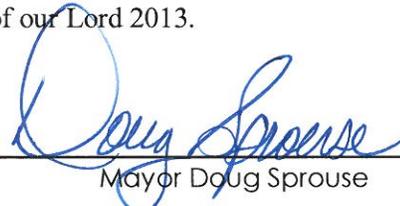
CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

across the City of Springdale, and I urge all Springdale citizens, community agencies, faith groups, medical facilities, and businesses to increase their participation in supporting families, thereby preventing child maltreatment, abuse, and neglect.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF,

I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Springdale to be affixed this 1st day of April, in the year of our Lord 2013.



Mayor Doug Sprouse