



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, The City of Pascagoula prides itself on giving back to the community, contributing to the quality of life among our citizens; and

WHEREAS, Jackson County CASA, in association with the National Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Association, speaks for the best interests of abused and neglected children who are involved in the juvenile courts; and

WHEREAS, more than 36,307 children throughout the State of Mississippi are reported to suffer from some form of abuse or neglect each year. Of those, roughly 6,495 were substantiated investigations meaning at least one form of abuse or neglect was found; and

WHEREAS, in Jackson County, there were about 262 or more substantiated incidents of abuse, neglect and/or exploitation; and

WHEREAS, within our state, 52 children died according to the most recent federal numbers reported of abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, through a national effort, Pascagoula community members are encouraged to join together to raise awareness for those children fallen victim to abuse and neglect throughout the month of April; and

WHEREAS, this effort will give abused and neglected children in our community, and around the county, a chance for a safe and positive future.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, the Mayor and City Council for the City of Pascagoula, Jackson County, Mississippi, by virtue of the authority vested in me, do hereby proclaim April 2022 as

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND AWARENESS MONTH

In this city, and in doing so, urge all citizens to join in a national effort to raise awareness and help prevent child abuse and neglect.

JAY WILLIS
Mayor