



# Staff Report

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**Agenda Item:** Proclamation – April 2008, As Child Abuse Prevention Month - Approval of a Proclamation declaring April 2008, Child Abuse Prevention Month in the Town of Clarkdale.

**Sponsored By:** Patricia Williams, Councilmember

**Staff Contact:** Kathy Bainbridge, Town Clerk

**Meeting Date:** April 22, 2008

**Background:** Child abuse affects the Town of Clarkdale and our residents. The more we are aware of the damage that child abuse causes, the more we become aware that this is a community problem. Declaring April 2008, “Child Abuse Prevention Month” will heighten public awareness of the dangers.

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends that council approve the Proclamation declaring April 2008, as “Child Abuse Prevention Month”.

# PROCLAMATION

## CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH APRIL 2008

WHEREAS, the abuse and neglect of children often leads to severe, costly, and life-long problems affecting all of society, including our health care, education, social services, law enforcement and public welfare systems; and

WHEREAS, last year in Arizona there were more than 37,000 reports of child maltreatment involving over 70,000 children, with more than sixty percent related to child neglect; and

WHEREAS, in 2006 in Arizona sixty children died as a result of maltreatment, with 46 of those being children under the age of four;

WHEREAS, Shaken Baby Syndrome caused near fatal brain injury to 63 young children and the deaths of nine infants in 2006; and

WHEREAS, effective home visiting programs, such as Healthy Families Arizona, succeed in keeping young children safe and healthy; supporting overburdened new parents and preventing maltreatment in over 98 percent of families served; and

WHEREAS, all children are entitled to be healthy and safe from abuse and neglect so that they can succeed in school and in life.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor Doug Von Gausig do hereby declare April 2008,

## CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

DATED THIS 22<sup>ND</sup> DAY OF APRIL, 2008

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DOUG VON GAUSIG, MAYOR