

STATE OF OHIO
Executive Department

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Columbus

IN RECOGNITION OF
OHIO CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT PREVENTION MONTH
APRIL 2009

All Ohioans share a responsibility to protect our children. During Ohio Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month, we renew our commitment to prevent child abuse and neglect and to work to enable our children to realize their full potential.

Childhood is a formative time, and abuse and neglect can have devastating long-term effects on young lives. In order to provide a safe environment for our young people, parents must work to protect their children from the dangers that threaten them. Family members, educators, public officials, and faith-based and community organizations all play important roles in helping to ensure that children are safe and can grow surrounded by love and stability.

Every Ohioan shares the commitment to support children and promote safe and stable families across Ohio. These values are reflected in Ohio's Commitments to Child Well-Being: Expectant parents and newborns thrive; Infants and toddlers thrive; Children are ready for school; Children and youth succeed in school; Youth choose healthy behaviors; and, Youth successfully transition into adulthood.

As we observe Ohio Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month, we underscore our commitment to building a state where all children can thrive, develop character, and learn to be responsible citizens in an environment of security and love. By honoring our obligation to support and protect our young people, all Ohioans have an opportunity to make a positive difference in the life of a child and build a brighter future for our state.

We hold sacred the trust of our nation's most valuable resource, our children.

NOW THEREFORE, I, TED STRICKLAND, Governor of the State of Ohio, do hereby recognize April 2009 as

Ohio Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month.

I encourage all citizens to help protect our children and work to create strong, healthy communities.

Ted Strickland

Ted Strickland
Governor