

The County of Centre

PROCLAMATION

NUMBER 33 OF 2022

WHEREAS, we recognize that it takes a cooperative, community effort to end child sexual abuse, and preventing child sexual abuse addresses a root cause of social problems including violent crime, homelessness, teen pregnancy, health problems, and substance abuse; and

WHEREAS, statistics show that one in ten children are sexually abused before their 18th birthday; and

WHEREAS, 90% of abused children are abused by someone that they and their caregivers know and trust; and

WHEREAS, eliminating or reducing isolated, one-on-one situations and screening those who care for children in youth serving settings decreases the risk of child sexual abuse; and

WHEREAS, learning to recognize and react responsibly to signs, disclosures, and suspicions of sexual abuse can protect children from further harm; and

WHEREAS, training adults in evidence-informed prevention programs such as Darkness to Light's Stewards of Children® has been proven to increase knowledge, improve attitudes, and positively change child protective behaviors;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Centre County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim **October 2022** as "**Centre County Protects Kids Month**," and encourages adult citizens to learn more about their role in protecting children from child abuse.

ADOPTED this 4th day of October 2022.



CENTRE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Michael Pipe

Michael Pipe, Chair

Mark Higgins

Mark Higgins, Vice-Chair

Steven G. Dershem

Steven G. Dershem

ATTEST:

John Franek Jr.
John Franek Jr, Administrator