

The County of Centre

PROCLAMATION

NUMBER 28 OF 2023

WHEREAS, elder abuse and neglect is a complex and ongoing problem in our society, affecting many older adults here in Centre County each and every day; and

WHEREAS, in 2020-2021 there were 275 reports of abuse against community members 60 years old and older. Of the 275 reports, 229 of them were investigated By Centre County Office of Aging; and

WHEREAS, an increased focus on the prevention of elder abuse and neglect through awareness, education, screening, and early intervention helps improve lives; and

WHEREAS, Centre County has dedicated individuals and organizations who work daily to counter the problem of elder maltreatment and to help individuals, families and caregivers to obtain the assistance they need; and

WHEREAS, effective elder abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships among families, community members, social service agencies, religious and civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, medical facilities, and the business community; and

WHEREAS our communities are stronger when all citizens become aware of the negative effect of elder maltreatment and its prevention and become involved in supporting elders, families and professionals to foster a safe environment; and

WHEREAS, we strive to create a community that focuses on prevention, response, and justice in relation to elder abuse and neglect. Creating an opportunity to be creative in seeking justice when frailties of aging impact the older adult's ability to advocate for themselves. Maintaining an open pathway of communication and relationships to improve advocacy and best serve Centre County's elderly population.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Centre County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim **June 2023 as "Elder Abuse Prevention Month"** in Centre County and urges citizens of Centre County and other jurisdictions to become more aware of this problem and join the prevention of elder abuse.

ADOPTED this 6th day of June 2023.



CENTRE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Handwritten signature of Mark Higgins in black ink.

Mark Higgins, Chair

Handwritten signature of Amber Concepcion in black ink.

Amber Concepcion

Handwritten signature of Steven G. Dershem in black ink.

Steven G. Dershem

ATTEST:

Handwritten signature of John Franek Jr. in black ink.

John Franek Jr., Administrator