

**PROCLAMATION
NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND AWARENESS MONTH
APRIL 2008**

WHEREAS, Children deserve to grow and thrive in an environment that nurtures and keeps them safe; unfortunately, abuse and neglect are suffered by children in our communities, regardless of age, race, gender or economic situation; and

WHEREAS, One in four girls and one in six boys will be sexually abused before the age of 18; and

WHEREAS, This reported maltreatment is only a portion of the overall problem threatening our children, for so many cases go unreported, and today's technology has brought with it a new and dangerous form of child endangerment, the online predator; and

WHEREAS, The devastating consequences of physical and emotional abuse of our children affects the community as a whole and finding solutions needs to be attended to by the community as a whole; and

WHEREAS, The State of Michigan has mandatory reporting by professionals working with children of any suspected abuse and neglect incidences -- a major step -- but more is needed in the communities; and

WHEREAS, CARE House of Oakland County (home of Child Abuse and Neglect Council of Oakland County) works to break the cycle of child abuse and neglect, provides a protective circle of light and hope for a better life, and advocates for the safety and protection of children; and

WHEREAS, CARE House of Oakland County partners with community organizations and agencies to offer programs and services aimed at preventing child abuse and neglect, knowing that effective programs succeed because of the involvement and partnerships created among schools, social service agencies, religious and civic organizations, the business community and law enforcement agencies;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Troy City Council does hereby proclaim April as National Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month in the City Of Troy, Michigan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Council calls upon all citizens, community agencies, organizations and businesses to increase their participation in the efforts of **CARE House** to prevent the abuse of our children, thereby strengthening and protecting the communities in which we live.

Signed this 7th day of April 2008.