

# City of Gainesville, Florida

Office of Mayor Craig Lowe  
PROCLAMATION

*WHEREAS, Alachua County has twice the State rate of child abuse; and*

*WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect cause significant trauma to the abused child and society, inflicting upon children serious illness and injury resulting in physical, intellectual and emotional impairment or death; and*

*WHEREAS, abused or neglected children are at much greater risk of becoming abusive and neglectful parents; and*

*WHEREAS, prevention services can reduce the cost society must bear in dealing with the results of child abuse and neglect and can help children and families avoid the overburdened and expensive social welfare and criminal justice systems; and*

*WHEREAS, children deserve the opportunity to grow and thrive in healthful environments, free from threats of violence and harm, and during the month of April, public and private-sector agencies, child care professionals, child advocates and residents will be increasing the public's awareness of child abuse and neglect prevention.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Craig Lowe, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim April 2013 as*

## **Child Abuse Prevention Month**

*in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me, our community abuse protection and prevention agencies, professionals and advocates to stop child abuse.*

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of March, C.E., 2013.*



*Craig Lowe*  
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Craig Lowe  
Mayor