

Proclamation



WHEREAS, the maltreatment, abuse, and neglect of children is a significant social problem that damages children physically, mentally, and emotionally, and inflicts immeasurable harm on society as a whole, and all children deserve to be nurtured, protected and free from physical or emotional harm; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Township of Vernon, as well as the State of New Jersey and the Department of Children and Families, believes that strong, healthy families are the best place to raise children; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Township of Vernon, as well as the State of New Jersey, are committed to building a continuum of community-based child abuse prevention and intervention programs that are culturally competent, strength-based and family-centered, and that achieve positive outcomes for parenting and family relationships as well as the empowerment of domestic violence victims and their children; and

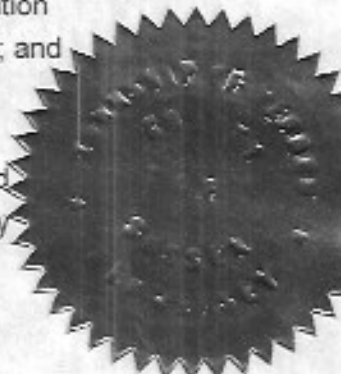
WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Township of Vernon, as well as the New Jersey Department of Children and Families, embraces the Standards for Prevention Programs developed by the New Jersey Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect; and

WHEREAS, all sectors of the community, including law enforcement, medical professionals, schools, courts, and media outlets, as well as numerous public and private agencies, have joined forces to promote public awareness and community involvement in strengthening families during the month of April and continuing throughout the year.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Mayor and Council of the Township of Vernon, do hereby proclaim **April 2015 as Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month in Vernon Township**, and urge our residents to become involved in efforts aimed at strengthening families and communities and preventing our children from being abused and neglected.

Given under my hand in these free United States in the Township of Vernon, on this 13th day of April 2015, and to which I have caused the Seal of the Township of Vernon to be affixed and have made this proclamation public.

Victor J. Marotta, Mayor



Patrick Rizzuto, Council President