WHEREAS, children are vital to the future success and prosperity of Independence; however, they are also the most vulnerable members of our society; and

WHEREAS, child abuse can have long-term emotional, psychological, and physical effects that can have lifelong consequences for victims of abuse; and

WHEREAS, creating family protective factors can promote the optimal development of children and reduce the likelihood of child abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge we must unite to increase awareness about child abuse and support the social and emotional well-being of children and families, thereby preventing child abuse and strengthening our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Eileen N. Weir, Mayor of Independence, on behalf of the citizens of this great city and the City Council, do hereby proclaim April 2022 as

## NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

in Independence, Missouri, and urge all citizens to recognize this month by dedicating themselves to the task of improving the quality of life for all children and families.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Independence, Missouri, to be affixed this April 4, 2022.

MAYOR

Attest:

CITY CLERK