



Thomas P. McNamara  
Mayor

## PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, throughout the month of April, the Family Violence Coordinating Council and other prevention groups will be hosting several events to bring awareness to the issue of child abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, in 2025, the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services received 227,126 calls, involving 78,097 child victims associated with abuse and neglect investigations; of those numbers, the Northern Illinois Region recorded 22,000 investigations and 157 reported deaths from abuse and neglect in Illinois; of those numbers, five had active open DCFS cases; and

WHEREAS, every child is entitled to be loved, cared for, nurtured, feel secure and be free from verbal, sexual, emotional, and physical abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, the City of Rockford has dedicated individuals and organizations who work daily to counter the problem of child abuse and neglect and to help parents obtain the assistance they need; and

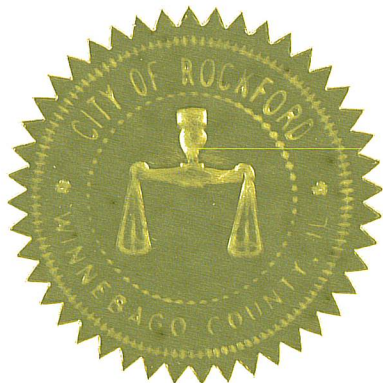
WHEREAS, our communities are stronger when all citizens become aware of child abuse and neglect prevention and become involved in supporting parents to raise their children in a safe and nurturing environment; and

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

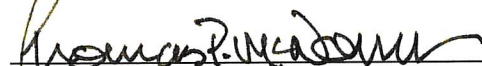
NOW, THEREFORE, I, THOMAS P. MCNAMARA, as Mayor of the city of Rockford do hereby proclaim the month of April 2026 to be:

### **“CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT AWARENESS MONTH”**

*in Rockford, Illinois and encourage all citizens rally support for child abuse victims and volunteer with organizations pleading to end this crime that plagues our society.*



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the city of Rockford to be affixed this 20<sup>th</sup> day of April 2026.

  
MAYOR THOMAS P. MCNAMARA  
CITY OF ROCKFORD