

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

**HENDERSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

MEETING DATE: May 1st, 2023

SUBJECT: Proclamation - Designating June as Elder Abuse Awareness Month

PRESENTER: Jerrie McFalls, Director

ATTACHMENTS: Yes
1. Proclamation

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

The Department of Social Services has requested the Board of Commissioners adopt a Proclamation, designating June as Elder Abuse Awareness Month in Henderson County.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

The Board is requested to review the attached Proclamation, and to adopt it as presented.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

I move that the Board adopt the attached Proclamation, designating June as Elder Abuse Awareness Month in Henderson County.

Henderson County Board of Commissioners

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Rebecca McCall
Chairman
J. Michael Edney
Vice-Chairman



David Hill
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William Lapsley

PROCLAMATION Designating June as Elder Abuse Awareness Month

WHEREAS, in 2006, the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, in support of the United Nations International Plan of Action, proclaimed a day to recognize the significance of elder abuse as a public health and human rights issue; and

WHEREAS, Henderson County's vulnerable and elder adults deserve to live safely with dignity; and

WHEREAS, vulnerable and elder adults of all socio-economic, racial and ethnic backgrounds may be targets of abuse, neglect or exploitation which occurs in families, long term care facilities and communities; and

WHEREAS, Henderson County Adult Protective Services received 579 reports in 2022 with 339 screened in for evaluation; and

WHEREAS, we know that elder abuse and mistreatment are underreported according to a study by the World Health Organization that found only 1 in 24 cases of elder abuse is reported; and

WHEREAS, recognizing that it is up to all of us, to ensure that proper social structures exist so people can retain community and societal connections, reducing the likelihood of abuse; and

WHEREAS, protecting Henderson County's vulnerable and elder adults is a community responsibility and it is imperative that communities work together to help reduce and prevent abuse, neglect and exploitation; and

WHEREAS, all residents should watch for signs of abuse such as physical trauma, withdrawal, depression, anxiety, fear of family members, friends or caregivers and report suspected abuse or exploitation to the Department of Social Services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Henderson County Board of Commissioners does hereby declare June as Elder Abuse Awareness Month in Henderson County, and encourages the community to work together to help reduce and prevent abuse, neglect and exploitation of our elders.

Adopted this the 1st day of May, 2023.

REBECCA MCCALL, CHAIRMAN
HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST:

DENISA LAUFFER, CLERK TO THE BOARD