PROCLAMATION CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

WHEREAS, child abuse prevention is a community problem and finding solutions depends on involvement among people throughout the community; and

- WHEREAS, statistics of children who are abused and neglected escalate each year and in DuPage County the number of reported child abuse cases was 4,004 in the last year; and
- **WHEREAS**, the effects of child abuse are felt by whole communities, and need to be addressed by the entire community; and
- WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships created among the courts, social service agencies, schools, religious organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community; and
- **WHEREAS**, youth-serving prevention programs offer positive alternatives for young people and encourage youth to develop strong ties to their community; and
- **WHEREAS**, all citizens should become more aware of child abuse and its prevention within the community and to become involved in supporting parents to raise their children in a safe, nurturing environment;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, William J. Mueller, President of the Village of Lombard, do hereby proclaim April as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Lombard and call upon all citizens, community agencies, religious organizations, medical facilities, and businesses to increase their participation in our efforts to prevent child abuse, thereby strengthening the communities in which we live.

> William J. Mueller Village President