

Proclamation

WHEREAS, our children deserve the best we have within us. They look to us to be their protectors, role models, heroes, and heroines; and

WHEREAS, children who are loved and nurtured, grow up to love and nurture others; and

WHEREAS, they give back to their families, their neighborhoods, and the entire nation, the good that we bestowed on them, and so the chain continues or should continue; and

WHEREAS, the frightening reality is that over three million children each year are reported abused and neglected, with over one thousand dying from their injuries; and

WHEREAS, the rest of the children continue to live, but they may carry the burden of mistreatment into adulthood; and

WHEREAS, they are more likely to suffer from substance abuse, depression, learning disabilities, school failure, emotional and behavioral disorders, criminal activity, and an inability to foster healthy relationships; and

WHEREAS, child maltreatment knows no social or economic boundaries and occurs in every neighborhood in America.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Frank Lee Cox, Mayor of the City of Arab, and in such capacity, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2008 as

CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH

in the City of Arab and encourage the citizens of this great city to show that they care by committing themselves to fighting child abuse and neglect.

FRANK LEE COX, Mayor

RUSSELL ELROD, Council member

MIKE ALLEN, Council member

DIANE PRESTRIDGE, Council member

LARRY CRAWFORD, Council member

RONNY SHUMATE, Council member