

## Proclamation Recognizing Child Abuse Prevention Month

- WHEREAS,** all children in our community deserve to be valued, healthy and thriving; and
- WHEREAS,** finding solutions for child abuse and neglect – a serious problem affecting every segment of our community – requires input and action from everyone because the well-being of our children today will shape the future of Colorado and our community; and
- WHEREAS,** childhood trauma can have long-term psychological, emotional, and physical effects that have lasting consequences for victims of abuse and neglect; and
- WHEREAS,** all parents and caregivers need support sometimes, and supporting children and families early is far less costly to society and individuals than healing from trauma; and
- WHEREAS,** parents, caregivers, family, friends, neighbors, employers and others can work together to grow the five critical protective factors in families' lives – parental resilience, social connections, concrete support in times of need, knowledge of parenting and child development, and social and emotional competence of children; and
- WHEREAS,** community leaders, policymakers and elected officials play a unique role in building a community for kids by understanding the programs and policies that support child maltreatment prevention, listening to parents' needs, and examining community planning through this lens that builds healthy communities; and
- WHEREAS,** effective prevention efforts succeed because of partnerships created among human service agencies, Public Health, the District Attorney's Office, schools, faith and civic organizations, the medical community, law enforcement and first responder agencies, the business community, nonprofits and concerned citizens; and
- WHEREAS,** everyone plays a role in preventing child abuse and neglect, helping to build thriving communities, so that families and children may also thrive.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** the Board of County Commissioners of El Paso County, Colorado, hereby proclaims April as Child Abuse Prevention Month in El Paso County. No matter where you live, everyone has the power to contribute towards a brighter tomorrow for all children.

**DONE THIS** 16th day of April 2024 at Colorado Springs, Colorado.



**ATTEST:**

Steve Schleiker  
County Clerk and Recorder

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS  
OF EL PASO COUNTY, COLORADO**

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