



ARAPAHOE COUNTY

Proclamation

PROCLAMATION ESTABLISHING JUNE 15, 2026, AS WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY

WHEREAS, older adults are important members of our community who have contributed significantly to society throughout their lives; and

WHEREAS, our elders deserve to live with dignity and security, free from fear, abuse, neglect, and exploitation; and

WHEREAS, elder abuse is a serious issue affecting countless people across our nation, including within our own Arapahoe County, and across all socioeconomic groups, cultures, and backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, in 2025, Arapahoe County received 3,662 Adult Protection Services calls to our abuse Hotline, generating 631 referrals assigned for assessment; and

WHEREAS, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day is an important opportunity to raise awareness of this issue and promote greater understanding of how to prevent and respond to elder abuse; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of all residents to recognize, report, and prevent elder abuse in all forms, including physical, emotional, financial, and sexual abuse, as well as neglect and self-neglect; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that one in 10 Americans aged 60 and older have experienced some form of elder abuse, with many cases going unreported due to shame, fear, or inability to report; and

WHEREAS, the consequences of elder abuse can be devastating, including diminished independence, deteriorated health, violated rights, financial insecurity, psychological distress, and in severe cases, premature death; and

WHEREAS, the Arapahoe County community must work together to ensure the safety and well-being of our elders, and to provide them with the respect, dignity, and care they deserve;

NOW, THEREFORE, Arapahoe County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim June 15, 2026, as **World Elder Abuse Awareness Day**. We urge all residents of our community to be vigilant and report any suspected elder abuse, neglect, or exploitation to the appropriate authorities. Let us all commit ourselves to creating a safe and supportive environment for our elders, and to working together to prevent elder abuse in all its forms.

Commissioner Carrie Warren-Gully

Commissioner Jessica Campbell

Commissioner Leslie Summey
Chair of the Board

Commissioner Jeff Baker
Chair Pro Tem

Commissioner Rhonda Fields