

A PROCLAMATION ESTABLISHING APRIL 2024 AS NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS AND **PREVENTION MONTH**

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect is a serious problem affecting every segment of our community, and finding solutions requires input and action from every resident; and

WHEREAS, Arapahoe County Human Services partners with families to identify and resolve concerns for children's safety and well-being; and

WHEREAS, our children are our most valuable resource and will shape the future of Arapahoe County; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect can have long-term psychological, emotional, and physical impacts that have lasting consequences for victims; and

WHEREAS, protective factors are conditions that reduce or eliminate risk, and promote the social, emotional, and developmental well-being of children; and

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention activities succeed because of the partnerships created between child welfare professionals, education, health, community and faith-based organizations, businesses, law enforcement agencies, and families; and

WHEREAS, communities must make every effort to promote connection, programs and activities that create strong and thriving children and families; and

WHEREAS, prevention remains the best defense for our children and families; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge that we must work together as a community to increase awareness about child abuse and neglect, and contribute to promote the social and emotional well-being of children and families in a safe, stable and nurturing environment.

NOW, THEREFORE, Arapahoe County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim April 2024 as NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH and urge all citizens to recognize this month by dedicating ourselves to the task of improving the quality of life for all children and families.

Commissioner Carrie Warren-Gully

Came Warren - Gully

Chair of the Board

Commissioner Jessica Campbell-Swanson

Commissioner Leslie Summey

Commissioner Jeff Baker Chair Pro Tem

Commissioner Bill L. Holen