



ARAPAHOE COUNTY

Proclamation

A PROCLAMATION ESTABLISHING APRIL 2025 AS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

WHEREAS, April is National Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month; and,

WHEREAS, the national organization Prevent Child Abuse America adopted the pinwheel as the symbol of child abuse prevention, reminding us of the bright future every child deserves, and Arapahoe County therefore planted pinwheel gardens at buildings throughout the community; and

WHEREAS, the early experiences of children impact them throughout life – both positively and negatively; and

WHEREAS, Arapahoe County Child Protection Services received 13,918 referrals of child abuse/neglect in 2024 alone; and

WHEREAS, of those referrals, 4,898 required a caseworker to respond to the home, meet with the alleged victim and family, and assess for safety concerns; and

WHEREAS, childhood trauma, including abuse and neglect, can have long-term psychological, emotional, social, and physical effects throughout an individual's lifetime, as well as impact future generations; and

WHEREAS, studies prove that families who receive the support they need before a crisis occurs are better equipped to provide safe, healthy, and nurturing environments, leading to safer, healthier children who are more hopeful about their futures; and

WHEREAS, strengthening families through proven factors such as concrete economic, social, and community-based supports, reduces the likelihood of abuse and neglect and ensures children have the foundation for lifelong well-being; and


WHEREAS, we all have a responsibility as residents of Arapahoe County to foster the potential of every child, prevent child abuse whenever possible and in whatever form and promote a healthy, positive childhood for all children; and,

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

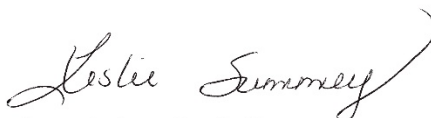
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Arapahoe County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaim April 2025 as **CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH** and we call on all residents of Arapahoe County to educate themselves on signs of child abuse and report their concerns to local authorities.



Commissioner Carrie Warren-Gully



Commissioner Jessica Campbell



Commissioner Leslie Summey
Chair of the Board



Commissioner Jeff Baker
Chair Pro Tem



Commissioner Rhonda Fields