



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION

Recognizing April 2025 as
CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION & AWARENESS MONTH
in Santa Barbara County

WHEREAS, Children under the age of 18 represent 22% of residents in Santa Barbara County and the physical and emotional wellbeing of all children and youth is a collective responsibility and a priority that ensures thriving and prosperous communities now and in the future; and

WHEREAS, Santa Barbara County Child Welfare Services investigated 3657 reports of suspected child abuse and neglect in 2024, recognizing the underlying conditions and risk factors that contribute to suspected abuse such as mental illness, substance abuse, domestic violence, and high levels of familial stress due to economic insecurity, community disruption and discrimination; and

WHEREAS, the effects of child abuse and neglect are felt by whole communities and solutions must also be community-based, addressing adversity and creating systems of community support that recognize stressors and partner with families and care providers to reduce risks and strengthen protective factors; and

WHEREAS, The Santa Barbara County Child Abuse Prevention Council and Together for Children are implementing a comprehensive prevention plan that demonstrates a commitment to improving the conditions for raising children while ensuring an integrated and family-centered system of support; and

WHEREAS, an effective child abuse prevention system succeeds because of partnerships created among social service agencies, schools, youth organizations, religious organizations, civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, the business community, and residents, increasing awareness about the importance of prevention and the strategies that contribute to success;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County does hereby acknowledge April 2025 as **CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION & AWARENESS MONTH** in Santa Barbara County.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California, this 8th day of April, 2025 by a unanimous vote of all members present.



ATTEST:

Maria Niyasato
Clerk of the Board

[Signature]

Supervisor - 1st District

[Signature]

Supervisor - 2nd District

[Signature]

Supervisor - 3rd District

[Signature]

Supervisor - 4th District

[Signature]

Supervisor - 5th District