



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING APRIL 2011 AS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

WHEREAS, according to projections from the Department of Finance statistics, there are currently over 105,127 children and youth under age 18 in Santa Barbara County, representing nearly 24% of the population; and

WHEREAS, the well-being of all children is a priority for Santa Barbara County; and

WHEREAS, in 2010 over 4,000 children were reported to the Child Abuse Hotline and over 3,300 families were investigated based on these reports; and

WHEREAS, the majority of these cases were due to child neglect; and

WHEREAS, Santa Barbara County's goal is to intervene early enough with services and supports for families so that any abuse or neglect can be prevented; and

WHEREAS, the Child Abuse Prevention Council understands that effective child abuse prevention is a shared responsibility, and requires strategic coordination of services and engagement of all sectors of the community; and

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention also requires that families in need can access services that address underlying risk factors, such as substance abuse, mental health issues or parental stress; and

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention further requires that families form a strong bond with their children; are supported through resources and services; know where and when to go for help; learn about parenting and child development; have opportunities to connect with each other in safe places; and can meet their families' basic needs; and

WHEREAS, all professionals working with children and all concerned citizens of Santa Barbara County can support child abuse prevention by strengthening families, protecting children and building safe and healthy communities.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors, County of Santa Barbara, State of California, recognize April 2011 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in the County of Santa Barbara. Passed and adopted this 12th day of April 2011.



ATTEST: Chandha Lalalla
Clerk of the Board

L. J. O'Connell
Supervisor - 1st District
Janet Wolf
Supervisor - 2nd District
Abdullah Fair
Supervisor - 3rd District
Jim Leary
Supervisor - 4th District
S. J. Dwyer
Supervisor - 5th District