

Santa Barbara County of



RESOLUTION NO. 26-79

RESOLUTION Recognizing April 2026 as CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION 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 fundamental priority that ensures thriving and prosperous communities now and in the future; and

WHEREAS, Santa Barbara County Child Welfare Services investigated 3,170 reports of suspected child abuse and neglect in 2025, responding to concerns about 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 household challenges; and

WHEREAS, the effects of child abuse and neglect are felt by whole communities and solutions must also be community-based, addressing root causes of adversity such as economic disparity, community disruption, and discrimination, and strengthening partnerships with families and care providers to reduce risks, strengthen protective factors, and increase access to positive experiences for children and youth; and

WHEREAS, The Santa Barbara County Child Abuse Prevention Council and KIDS Network are committed to sustaining collaborative approaches that include social service agencies, schools, youth organizations, religious organizations, civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, the business community, and residents to improve the conditions for raising children while ensuring an integrated and family-centered system of community support; and

WHEREAS, every child matters, and a safer world begins with engaged community members who share responsibility for child, family and community wellbeing;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara does hereby acknowledge April 2026 as **CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH** in Santa Barbara County.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California, this 7th day of April, 2026 by a unanimous vote of all members present.



Mona Diaz
ATTEST: Clerk of the Board

[Signature]
Supervisor - 1st District

[Signature]
Supervisor - 2nd District

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Supervisor - 3rd District

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Supervisor - 4th District

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Supervisor - 5th District

