



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING APRIL 2014 AS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

WHEREAS, thriving communities depend on the successful development of the people who live in them and children and youth under age 18 represent nearly 24% of the population in Santa Barbara County; and

WHEREAS, foundations of success for children and youth require responsive, safe and supportive environments that promote optimal growth and learning, starting with families and including neighborhoods, schools and surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, in 2013 more than 4,790 referrals for suspected child abuse and neglect were made to Santa Barbara County Child Welfare Services and over 1,300 families were referred-out to community partners through Differential Response, and the majority of substantiated Child Welfare cases were due to child neglect and caregiver incapacity, often associated with underlying risk factors such as parental substance abuse, mental illness, intimate partner violence and chronic stress; and

WHEREAS, research shows that child abuse and neglect can have long-term effects that include a far higher likelihood of mental illness, substance abuse, violence, crime, suicide, obesity and chronic disease, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have called child abuse America's number-one public health crisis, and it is estimated that every dollar invested in prevention saves one hundred dollars paying for the consequences of child abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Barbara County Child Abuse Prevention Council provides a forum for effective prevention partnerships between public agencies, community-based organizations, parents and concerned citizens that enhance family support systems, reduce risks, strengthen families and build protective factors to keep children safe and growing strong;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors, County of Santa Barbara, recognizes April 2014 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in the County of Santa Barbara.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the Santa Barbara County, State of California, this 1st day of April 2014, by a unanimous vote of all members present.



ATTEST: Don Jacobo
Clerk of the Board

Loce
Supervisor - 1st District
Janet Wiley
Supervisor - 2nd District
William Lane
Supervisor - 3rd District
Robert Allen
Supervisor - 4th District
Edgewood
Supervisor - 5th District