

A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PLACERVILLE RECOGNIZING APRIL 2022 AS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, California's children deserve to grow up in a safe and nurturing environment free from fear, abuse, and neglect; and

WHEREAS, 2,365 reports of abuse and/or neglect were made to El Dorado County Child Protective Services in 2021, of which 226 were found to be substantiated following investigation; and

WHEREAS, in the City of Placerville, children are victims of one, or perhaps several types of child abuse each year; and

WHEREAS, children who have been abused or neglected have a higher risk of developing various health problems as adults, including alcoholism, depression, drug abuse, eating disorders, obesity, suicide, early death, and certain chronic diseases; and

WHEREAS, providing community-based prevention services to those families can help avoid the costs of protective services, law enforcement, the judicial system, foster care, and the treatment of adults recovering from abuse as children; and

WHEREAS, the El Dorado County Child Abuse Prevention Council seeks to elevate the message of our community recognizing and reporting suspected child abuse to protect all children in El Dorado County; and

WHEREAS, prevention remains the best defense for children and families and we must work together as a community to increase awareness about child abuse and promote the social and emotional well-being of children and families in a safe, stable, and nurturing environment; and

WHEREAS, pinwheels are displayed to increase the awareness of child abuse and focus on the positive message of preventing child abuse and neglect by supporting families and strengthening communities during Child Abuse Prevention Month:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kara Taylor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Placerville, State of California, urge all citizens to join me in recognizing this month by dedicating ourselves to the task of improving the quality of life for all children and families not just in the month of April, but throughout the year.

Date: April 26, 2022