

A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PLACERVILLE RECOGNIZING APRIL, 2025, AS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

WHEREAS, every child deserves to grow up in a safe, nurturing, and supportive environment free from abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect can have long-term psychological, emotional, and physical effects, impacting children, families, and the broader community; and

WHEREAS, Child Abuse Prevention Month is an opportunity to raise awareness and take action to protect children, strengthen families, and foster a community where all children can thrive; and

WHEREAS, research shows that promoting protective factors—such as parental resilience, social connections, concrete support in times of need, knowledge of parenting and child development, and children's social and emotional competence—helps reduce the risk of child abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, the Child Abuse Prevention Council (CAPC) of El Dorado County plays a vital role in advocating for prevention strategies, education, and resources that help families thrive; and

WHEREAS, in 2024, 519 reports of child abuse and/or neglect were made to El Dorado County Child Welfare Services with a Placerville address, of which 40 referrals were substantiated, confirming that at least 64 children in the city of Placerville experienced abuse or neglect, and

WHEREAS, child abuse prevention is a shared responsibility, and by working together, we can build a community where every child is valued, supported, and protected because these are our children, and this is our community; and

WHEREAS, community members are encouraged to wear blue on Fridays throughout April and participate in local events to show support for child abuse prevention efforts; and

WHEREAS, in honor of young lives lost to abuse and neglect, the Child Abuse Prevention Council invites the community to attend a Memorial Flag Raising Event on April 25 at 10:00 AM to remember and recognize the importance of continued prevention efforts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the City Council of the City of Placerville does hereby proclaim April, 2025, as Child Abuse Prevention Month and urges all residents to come together to build caring connections, supportive environments, and positive experiences for children and families.

Dated: March 25, 2025

Mayor John Clerici