

**MEMORANDUM**  
OFFICE OF THE  
**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
COUNTY OF PLACER

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Richard J. Burton, M.D., M.P.H., Health Officer, and HHS Department Director  
Mike Boyle, Assistant County Executive Secretary

DATE: April 29, 2008

SUBJECT: **PROCLAMATION** - Approve a Proclamation recognizing April 2008 as Child Abuse Prevention Month

---

**ACTION REQUESTED**

Approve a Proclamation declaring April 2008 to be Child Abuse Prevention Month.

**BACKGROUND/COMMUNITY BENEFITS**

The Department of Health and Human Services has many community partners who participate actively in pursuing the goal of reducing child abuse and neglect for Placer county children. Chief among these is the Child Abuse Prevention Council. Together with other key partners, the council leads a collaborative effort to deliver a variety of services which assist and support Placer's families in creating safe homes and communities.

In recent years, these partnerships have played key roles in supporting the department's implementation of evidenced based approaches to preventing and treating abuse, and supporting at risk children. The county enjoys declining numbers of foster and group home children, who are able to be safely served and protected in their homes because of the availability of effective community supports.

April 2008 is National Child Abuse Awareness Month, and the department desires to support the Child Abuse Prevention Council and allied community partners in raising awareness and providing education to the community regarding the most effective and useful methods to prevent child abuse.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal cost associated with this item.

**In the matter of a Proclamation  
Declaring April 2008  
as "Child Abuse Prevention Month" in Placer County**

**WHEREAS**, preventing child abuse and neglect is a community problem that depends on the involvement of all citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, child maltreatment occurs when parents or other caregivers find themselves in stressful situations, without community resources, and do not know how to cope or access those resources; and

**WHEREAS**, scientific studies have confirmed a direct link between child abuse and a significantly greater risk later in life for divorce, substance abuse, crime, suicide, heart disease, obesity and other crisis; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Center for Disease Control now ranks child abuse as America's number one public health crisis; and

**WHEREAS**, child abuse affects millions of people and costs taxpayers an estimated \$103.8 billion annually; and

**WHEREAS**, child abuse and neglect can be reduced by making sure each family has the support they need to raise their children in a healthy environment; and

**WHEREAS**, for the past 19 years, the Child Abuse Prevention Council of Placer County, has partnered with government, social service, medical personnel, non-profit organizations, schools, faith communities, civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community to develop and sustain effective prevention programs to ensure every child lives in a safe, healthy and nurturing home.

**NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE KNOWN** that the Placer County Board of Supervisors designates April 2008 as Child Abuse Prevention Month and reaffirms its dedication to preventing child abuse and protecting our community's children. **BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED** that the Board calls upon all citizens to increase their participation in efforts to support families thereby preventing child abuse and strengthening the communities in which we live.

---

Jim Holmes Supervisor, District 3  
Chairman 2008

Rocky Rockholm  
Supervisor, District 1

Kirk Uhler  
Supervisor, District 4

Robert M. Weygandt  
Supervisor, District 2

Bruce Kranz  
Supervisor, District 5