

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF DESCHUTES COUNTY, OREGON**

**A Proclamation Declaring April 2025 to be Child Abuse Prevention Month**

**PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, there were over 5,200 reports of child abuse and neglect in Central Oregon last year resulting in over 2,600 investigations of child abuse and neglect; and

**WHEREAS**, we all have a responsibility, as individuals, neighbors, community members and citizens of Central Oregon to help ensure healthy, safe, nurturing experiences for children; and

**WHEREAS**, safe and healthy childhoods help produce confident and successful adults; and

**WHEREAS**, child abuse and neglect often occur when people find themselves in stressful situations, without community resources, and don't know how to cope; and

**WHEREAS**, the majority of child abuse and neglect cases stem from situations and conditions that are preventable with the support of an engaged community; and

**WHEREAS**, child abuse and neglect can be reduced by making sure that families have the support and access to services they need to raise their children in a healthy environment; and

**WHEREAS**; child abuse and neglect not only directly harm children, but the trauma can also increase the likelihood of criminal behavior, substance abuse, health problems such as heart disease and obesity, and poor academic outcomes; and

**WHEREAS**; effective prevention programs succeed because of partnerships among agencies, schools, faith communities, philanthropic and civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Deschutes County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim April 2025 to be Child Abuse Prevention Month in Deschutes County and we urge all citizens to work together to make sure every family has the support they need and deserve to raise their children in a healthy environment.

**DATED** this 2nd Day of April 2025 by the Deschutes County Board of Commissioners.

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Anthony DeBone, Chair

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Patti Adair, Vice-Chair

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PHIL CHANG, Commissioner

ATTEST:

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Recording Secretary