

Proclamation Recognizing Child Abuse Prevention Month

WHEREAS, all children in our community deserve to feel safe, valued, and protected so they can grow into healthy and thriving individuals; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect are serious issues affecting every segment of our community, with long-term psychological, emotional, and physical effects that can shape a child's future and, in turn, the future of our county and state; and

WHEREAS, although childhood trauma can have lasting effects, we recognize the incredible resilience of children and the capacity for survivors to heal, overcome adversity, and thrive when provided with support, stability, and care; and

WHEREAS, strong families are the foundation of a strong community, and all parents and caregivers need support at times, as providing early help to families is far less costly—both financially and emotionally—than healing from trauma after it occurs; and

WHEREAS, parents, caregivers, family, friends, neighbors, employers and others can work together to grow the five critical protective factors in families' lives – parental resilience, social connections, concrete support in times of need, knowledge of parenting and child development, such as that provided by the El Paso County Center on Fathering, and social and emotional competence of children; and

WHEREAS, child abuse prevention is not the responsibility of a single agency but of an entire community, including human service agencies, public health organizations, schools, faith groups, law enforcement, the medical community, businesses, nonprofits, and, most importantly, caring individuals who take the time to support children and families; and

WHEREAS, each member of our community has a role to play in preventing child abuse and neglect and helping families and children to thrive.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Palmer Lake, Colorado, hereby proclaims April as Child Abuse Prevention Month. No matter where we live, we each have a role to play in protecting children, strengthening families, and ensuring our community is a place where all children can thrive.

DONE THIS 9th day of April 2026 at Palmer Lake, Colorado.

**THE BOARD OF PALMER LAKE,
COLORADO**

Mayor

ATTEST:

Town Clerk