

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH PROCLAMATION

April 1, 2026

WHEREAS, Prevention is possible. With strong policies and investments, families and children can thrive, fostering prevention, stability and long-term well-being;

WHEREAS, the early experiences of a child impact them throughout life – both positively and negatively;

WHEREAS, supporting families early reduces the need for a crisis response, improves lifelong outcomes, strengthens communities, and saves public dollars and costly downstream interventions across multiple systems;

WHEREAS, every family and child is filled with tremendous promise, and we all have a collective responsibility to prevent Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), foster the potential of every child, and promote Positive Childhood Experiences;

WHEREAS, Positive Childhood Experiences (PCEs)—such as loving caregivers and safe, stable, and nurturing relationships—play a vital role in helping children thrive by mitigating trauma and the negative impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs);

WHEREAS, families who receive the support they need before a crisis occurs are better equipped to provide safe, healthy, and nurturing environments, leading to children who are safer, healthier, and more hopeful about their futures;

WHEREAS, childhood trauma, including abuse and neglect, can have long-term psychological, emotional, and physical effects throughout an individual's lifetime and impact future generations;

WHEREAS, primary prevention of child abuse and neglect can reduce the lifetime economic burden associated with child maltreatment;

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention activities succeed because of the partnerships created between child welfare professionals, education, health, community- and faith-based organizations, businesses, law enforcement agencies, and families;

WHEREAS, we acknowledge that we must work together as a community to increase awareness about what families need before they are in crisis and contribute to promoting the social and emotional well-being of children and families in a safe, stable, and nurturing environment;

WHEREAS, investments in primary prevention initiatives—such as early childhood home visiting programs like Healthy Families America, policies that promote economic stability and mobility, and community-based child abuse prevention efforts— reduce the likelihood of abuse and neglect and ensure children have the foundation for lifelong well-being; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, _____, Mayor of the Town of Saratoga do hereby proclaim April 2026 as CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH in [State or Jurisdiction] and urge all citizens to recognize that child abuse is preventable and that a healthy and prosperous society depends on strong families and communities.

Together, we can create a state invested in families where every child deserves to live a purposeful and happy life with hope for their future.

Signed _____

Date _____

Chuck Davis
Town of Saratoga - Mayor