PROCLAMATION In Support of Child Abuse Prevention Month in Gilpin County, Colorado – April 2024

WHEREAS, every one of the more than 1.2 million children in Colorado today deserve to be valued, healthy, and thriving; and

WHEREAS, children are our future employees, leaders and neighbors and will shape the future of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, positive childhood experiences (PCES)—like loving caregivers and safe, stable, and nurturing relationships—can help mitigate trauma and the negative impact of adverse childhood experiences (ACES) to promote the social, emotional, and developmental well-being of children; and

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

WHEREAS, childhood trauma, including abuse and neglect, is a serious problem affecting every community in the U.S., and finding solutions requires input and action from everyone; and

WHEREAS, children who live in families with access to concrete economic and social supports are less likely to experience abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, prevention is possible because of the partnerships created between families, prevention advocates, child welfare professionals, education, health, community, and faith-based organizations, businesses, law enforcement agencies, and local, state, and national governments; and

WHEREAS, we are committed to advancing equitable, responsive, and effective systems that ensure all children and families are healthy and thriving; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the need to prioritize kids and invest in more prevention initiatives like home visiting and family-strengthening policies, economic supports, and community-based child abuse prevention programs at the national, state, and local levels; and

WHEREAS, strengthening families remains the best approach to promoting brighter childhoods.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gilpin County Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim April 2024, as National Child Abuse Prevention Month in Gilpin County, and urge all citizens to recognize this month by building a narrative of hope for children and families through collaboration and the promotion of an ecosystem of primary prevention.

ADOPTED this 9th day of April 2024.

ATTEST:

Clerk to the Board

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COUNTY OF GILPIN, COLORADO

Marie A. Mornis, Commissioner

Sandy Hollingsworth, Commissioner