



AGENDA ITEM REQUEST FORM
Communication to Board of County Commissioners

To: Chair Linda Isenhart, Commissioner Web Sill and Commissioner Sandy Hollingsworth

From: Laura Solomon
Name

Human Services Director
Title

Today's Date: March 22, 2022

BoCC Meeting Date: April 5, 2022

Item: April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Request or Issue: Offering Child Abuse Prevention Information and where to find it.

Recommended Action / Next Step: Information Only

Financial Impact(s): Have you spoken to the Finance Director about this expense/revenue? No, financial impact.

Background Information:

- April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month
- Blue is the color for Prevention Awareness.
- If you own Blue, wear blue throughout April.
- If you have the blue and silver pinwheels, please display them to show your support.
- We will be featuring different resources, links and ways to identify and prevent child abuse on the Human Services Facebook page through the month of April.
- If you are ever concerned about a child or youth being at risk for abuse or neglect, please call us at 1-844-264-5437

Amount of agenda time needed: 5 Minutes

Is this item time sensitive: Yes, due to April being National Prevent Child Abuse Month.

Contact for Follow Up: Laura Solomon: lsolomon@gilpincounty.org or 303-515-4296



April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. You may see pinwheels in the community both inside and outside. Pinwheels represent the bright childhoods we want for all children.

Some ways to show your support for promoting positive childhood experiences are

- **Wearing Blue throughout the month of April and share your pictures on Facebook or at #GrowingBetterTogether**
- **Plant a pinwheel garden.**
- **Remember all parents and caregivers need support sometimes.**

Adversity does not equal destiny. With the right supports and interventions at the right times, futures can be reshaped.

Effective child abuse prevention activities succeed because of partnerships created between early childhood, child welfare professionals, education, health, community & faith-based organizations and schools, businesses, law enforcement agencies and every other member our community.

There are 5 proven ways to help strengthen families and prevent child abuse:

- 1. Parental Resilience: Managing stress and dealing with your life even when things get hard.**
- 2. Social and Emotional Skills: Help children develop skills so they can manage their emotions and build healthy relationships with other children and adults.**
- 3. Social Connections: Having a network of friends and family make a big difference. Accept help from others and look for opportunities to give back.**
- 4. Concrete Supports in Times of Need: Some problems are to big to solve alone. Knowing where to get help in the community can make life easier.**
- 5. Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development: There is no perfect parent, but knowing what to expect does make the job easier. Seek out information on what to expect as your child grows.**

And if you are worried or have concerns about a child or youth being abused or neglected, please call the Child Abuse Hotline at 1-844-264-5437. The call taker will ask you questions and gather information to help Human Services know how to respond or provide resources.

Prevention Resources: COPinwheelsForPrevention.org Or google: Prevent Child Abuse Colorado, Prevent Child Abuse America, illuminate Building Brighter Childhoods. We will have links to these sites on The Gilpin County Human Services Facebook page. You can also call our office at 303-582-5444 if you have questions or need resources. (April 2022)