

GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY PROCLAMATION

Child Abuse Prevention Month – April, 2024

WHEREAS, April is Child Abuse Prevention Month and is intended to draw attention to the fact that child abuse is widespread and has strong implications for every community in the United States; and

WHEREAS, we believe that the children of our community are to be valued as the future of our community and we should prioritize their safety; and

WHEREAS, we must address the reality that one in six boys and one in four girls will experience sexual assault before age 18 (Department of Health and Human Services 2022); and

WHEREAS, the United States Advisory Board on Child Abuse and Neglect suggests that domestic violence may be the single leading persecutor to child abuse and neglect fatalities; and;

WHEREAS, public health emergencies increase risk for child abuse and neglect due to increased stressors and loss of financial and social supports. During the COVID-19 pandemic reporting of these abuses decreased, while the severity of emergency department visits related to child abuse and neglect increased; and

WHEREAS, Child abuse prevention is a community responsibility and finding solutions depends on involvement among all people. We must work together to educate our community about what can be done to prevent child abuse and how to support survivors and their families; and

WHEREAS, Grays Harbor strongly supports the efforts of national, state, and local partners, and of every citizen to actively engage in public and private efforts, including conversations about what child abuse is, how to prevent it, how to help survivors connect with services, and how every segment of our society can work together to better address child abuse in all of its forms.


NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by we, Grays Harbor County, do hereby proclaim April as "Child Abuse Prevention Month!" In doing so, the Board encourages all people in Grays Harbor County to detect and prevent child abuse, and to improve the quality of life for all children and families.

DATED this 2nd day of April, 2024.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY


Kevin Pine (Apr 2, 2024 18:59 PDT)

Kevin Pine, Chair, District 2



Jill Warne, District 1



Vickie Raines, District 3

ATTEST:



Wendy Chatham, Clerk of the Board

Date: 04-02-2024