

# PROCLAMATION

## OF THE

### MENDOCINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

#### RECOGNIZING APRIL AS NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

**WHEREAS**, in Mendocino County in year 2025, **1350** suspected child abuse/neglect reports were received with **626** needing investigation resulting in **525** substantiated allegations. Mendocino County Child Welfare and community partners support on average monthly, **261** children, youth and nonminor dependents involved in the Juvenile Dependency Court; and

**WHEREAS**, child abuse and neglect is a serious problem affecting every segment of our community, and finding solutions requires input and action from everyone; and

**WHEREAS**, our children are our most valuable resources and will shape the future of Mendocino County; and

**WHEREAS**, child abuse can have long-term psychological, emotional, and physical effects that have lasting consequences for victims of abuse; and

**WHEREAS**, protective factors are conditions that reduce or eliminate risk and promote the social, emotional, and developmental well-being of children; and

**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; and

**WHEREAS**, communities must make every effort to promote programs and activities that create strong and thriving children and families; and

**WHEREAS**, we acknowledge that we must work together as a community to increase awareness about child abuse and contribute to promote the social and emotional well-being of children and families in a safe, stable, and nurturing environment; and

**WHEREAS**, prevention remains the best defense for our children and families.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mendocino, hereby proclaims April 2026, as:

“Child Abuse Prevention Month”

Dated:

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Bernie Norvell, Chair