

PROCLAMATION

OF THE MENDOCINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

RECOGNIZING POSITIVE PARENTING AWARENESS MONTH FOR MENDOCINO COUNTY

WHEREAS, raising children and youth to become healthy, confident, capable individuals is the most important job parents and caregivers have; and

WHEREAS, positive parenting strengthens family relationships, increases parents' confidence and promotes children's healthy development; and

WHEREAS, the quality of parenting or caregiving – starting in the prenatal period – is one of the most powerful predictors of children's future social, emotional and physical health; and

WHEREAS, positive parenting can prevent or mitigate the effects of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) such as child abuse, neglect or other traumatic events that can create dangerous levels of stress and impair lifelong health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, many parents and caregivers begin the lifetime job of raising children unprepared, and the social stigma of seeking help prevents many from getting parenting support; and

WHEREAS, in Mendocino County, families come in many forms and children are raised by parents, grandparents, foster parents, family members and other caregivers; and

WHEREAS, in Mendocino County, families can receive support from various positive parenting programs, such as the Triple P - Positive Parenting Program, an evidence-based program that has been offered for more than ten years in English and Spanish by many organizations and individuals throughout the county, thanks to a partnership between FIRST 5 Mendocino, the Mendocino County Health and Human Services Agency, the Family Resource Centers, and North Coast Opportunities Early Head Start and Head Start programs; and

WHEREAS, Triple P is an effective and universal public health parenting intervention, reaching approximately 1000 parents and children of diverse backgrounds in Mendocino County who benefit each year; and

WHEREAS, Triple P offers parents and caregivers a “tool kit” of proven strategies for strengthening relationships with their children, promoting children's development, and preventing or managing common parenting challenges; and

WHEREAS, Triple P parenting strategies such as spending quality time together, giving positive attention, and giving descriptive praise are simple, practical and changing families' lives for the better; and

WHEREAS, 95 percent of participants have reported they continue using Triple P parenting strategies after completing the program; and

WHEREAS, the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors values the wellbeing of children and families and the lasting benefits of the Positive Parenting Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mendocino, hereby proclaims January 2018, as:

“Positive Parenting Awareness Month”

Dan Hamburg, Chair