

PROCLAMATION

OF THE

MENDOCINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

RECOGNIZING JANUARY 2026 AS POSITIVE PARENTING AWARENESS MONTH IN MENDOCINO COUNTY

WHEREAS, the quality of raising children, starting prenatally, is one of the most powerful predictors of children's future social, emotional, physical, and behavioral health; and

WHEREAS, the well-being of those who are raising children should be a priority to all of us; and

WHEREAS, children are best supported in communities consisting of parents, grandparents, foster parents, family members, and other caregivers in a variety of settings such as schools, family childcare, early childhood education centers, and health clinics; and

WHEREAS, despite how essential parenting is for the health of children and our collective society, there is a lack of value placed on parenting; and

WHEREAS, the removal of supports related to strengthening family dynamics has deepened challenges across the state; and

WHEREAS, according to the 2024 U.S. Surgeon General's advisory on the mental health and well-being of parents, "We must recognize the importance of parenting and reflect it in how we prioritize resources, design policy, shape work environments, and approach our conversations with parents"; and

WHEREAS, there is an opportunity to accelerate the progress of programs that currently operate at sub-scale throughout California. "Research echoes the importance of early intervention with roughly 30 percent of California caregivers reporting moderate concerns over their child's social and emotional development and behavioral health, and 20-40 percent of those same caregivers reporting engaging in some ineffective type of parenting."; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Master Plan for Kids' Mental Health prioritizes investments to expand urgent mental health supports for children and youth, particularly in underserved communities, and promotes prevention and early intervention by providing

parents with the knowledge, tools, and resources to support their children's behavioral health; and

WHEREAS, research confirms that positive parenting creates positive childhood experiences (PCEs) which reduce the effects of depression associated with ACEs by as much as 44% in children and youth; and

WHEREAS, positive parenting is a protective factor that strengthens family relationships, increases parents' confidence, and drives children's social, emotional, and relational health and development; and

WHEREAS, families in Mendocino County can receive quality parent education support, including Triple P - Positive Parenting Program, an evidence-based program offered for over sixteen years in English and Spanish by many organizations and individuals throughout the County, and thanks to critical partnerships between FIRST 5 Mendocino, Mendocino County's Family and Children Services and Behavioral Health and Recovery Services, the Family Resource Centers, and North Coast Opportunities Early Head Start and Head Start programs and several Tribal partnerships; and

WHEREAS, through our individual actions and with the support of community groups, schools, faith organizations, employers, health and social service systems, and policymakers, we can create opportunities for parents to come together and build communities of mutual care and connection and intentionally strengthen parental well-being.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mendocino, hereby proclaims , 2025, as:

“Positive Parenting Awareness Month”

Dated:

Bernie Norvell, Chair