RESOLUTION NO. 41 - 25

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING APRIL 2025 AS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

WHEREAS, every child in our community deserves to be valued, nurtured, and protected so they can grow into healthy, thriving individuals, and every child is entitled to feel safe, secure, and loved; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect are serious issues affecting every segment of our community, with long-term psychological, emotional, and physical effects that can shape a child's future and, in turn, the future of our county and state; and

WHEREAS, strong families are the foundation of a strong community, and all parents and caregivers need support at times, as providing early help to families is far less costly—both financially and emotionally—than healing from trauma after it occurs; and

WHEREAS, we can prevent child abuse and neglect by working together to strengthen the five protective factors in families' lives: parental resilience, social connections, concrete support in times of need, knowledge of parenting and child development, and social and emotional competence in children; and

WHEREAS, child abuse prevention is not the responsibility of a single agency but of an entire community, including human service agencies, public health organizations, schools, faith groups, law enforcement, the medical community, businesses, nonprofits, and, most importantly, caring individuals who take the time to support children and families; and

WHEREAS, community leaders, policymakers, and elected officials play a unique role in building a safe community for children by understanding the programs and policies that support child maltreatment prevention, listening to parents' needs, and shaping community planning through this lens to build healthier communities; and

WHEREAS, by fostering a culture where every child is cherished, every family is supported, and every adult recognizes their role in preventing child abuse, we can create a safer, stronger, and more compassionate community; and

WHEREAS, everyone has the power to contribute to a brighter future for children, whether by lending a helping hand to a parent, advocating for strong family policies, or simply being a trusted adult in a child's life.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS:

Section 1. April is recognized as Child Abuse Prevention Month in the City of Colorado Springs and no matter where you live, we each have a role to play in protecting children, strengthening families, and ensuring our community is a place where all children can thrive.

Dated at Colorado Springs, Colorado this 25th day of March 2025.

Randy Helms, Council President

ATTEST:

Sarah B. Johnson, City Clerk

COLORADO SPRINGS INCORPORATED SEAL SEPTEMBER 3, 1872 COLORADO