

# PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver

## **Proclamation No. 13-0220 Declaring April as Child Abuse Prevention Month**

**WHEREAS**, children are key to the City of Denver's future success, prosperity, and quality of life, and while children are our most valuable resource, they are also our most vulnerable; and

**WHEREAS**; Denver strives to be a community that supports a healthy environment to raise happy, healthy, vibrant and thriving children; and

**WHEREAS**; the work and the joy of raising our wonderful children should not and cannot rest with parents alone; and

**WHEREAS**; we need the help of every single person in our community to make our children a top priority, and to be a network of support for children and parents; and

**WHEREAS**; we encourage every family, every church, every school, every community-based organization, every restaurant, and every business to join us in our efforts to keep children safe, families stable, and communities strong; and

**WHEREAS**; we know that each of you can "Be the One" who makes a difference in a child's life, shaping their future and the future of our great city; and

**WHEREAS**; we have identified five protective factors that help prevent child abuse and neglect from ever happening in the first place:

### **1 - Be a Bounce Back Family**

Challenging times impact every family. Recognizing stressful situations and keeping a sense of hope helps us take constructive action to turn things around.

### **2 – Make Parent Growth a Priority**

Taking time to learn what is age appropriate and how to set realistic expectations gives us tools to cope positively with various situations.

### **3 – Learn more about Child Growth**

Helping children develop emotionally helps them identify their feelings, clearly communicate and problem solve, and prepares them for positive social interaction.

### **4 – Have a Network of Friends & Family**

Having a strong support system of neighbors and community members helps us get needed breaks, cope with difficult times and prevents us from becoming isolated.

**5 – Call a Pro!**

Getting to know a day care professional, caseworker, teacher, or doctor gives us an expert to turn to in times of need. And;

**WHEREAS;** we need the help of everyone in our community to share these five protective factors; and

**WHEREAS;** “Pinwheels for Prevention” planted in gardens around Denver serve as a reminder that every child can have a bright and positive future free from abuse and neglect.

**NOW THEREFORE,  
BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:**

**Section 1.** That Denver City Council declares April 2013 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in the City & County of Denver.

**Section 2.** That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall attest and affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to Denver Human Services, Division of Child Welfare.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL April 1, 2013

\_\_\_\_\_ PRESIDENT