

DENVER CITY COUNCIL



Proclamation No. 25-0562

A Proclamation Recognizing April as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Denver

WHEREAS, every one of the more than 130,000 children in the City and County of Denver deserve to be valued, healthy, and thriving. Children are our future employees, leaders, and neighbors, and they will shape the future of Denver; and

WHEREAS, positive childhood experiences — such as loving caregivers and safe, stable, and nurturing relationships — can help mitigate trauma and the negative impact of adverse childhood experiences to promote the social, emotional, and developmental well-being of Denver children; and

WHEREAS, childhood trauma, including abuse and neglect, is a serious issue affecting every community in Denver and across the U.S., and finding solutions requires input and action from everyone; and

WHEREAS, prevention is achievable due to the partnerships formed between families, prevention advocates, child welfare professionals, education, health, community, and faith-based organizations, businesses, law enforcement agencies, and local, state, and national governments; and

WHEREAS, the Denver City Council is dedicated to advancing equitable, responsive, and effective systems that ensure all children and families in Denver are healthy and thriving; and

WHEREAS, the Denver City Council acknowledges, appreciates, and uplifts community providers, organizations, and peer support partners that work to keep families from entering child welfare and receive services outside of the system to decrease unnecessary involvement in the child welfare system; and

WHEREAS, the Denver Human Services staff compassionately serve Denver residents by connecting them to programs, benefits, and services that strengthen families and reduce the likelihood of child maltreatment; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the necessity to prioritize children and youth and invest in prevention initiatives such as home visiting, family-strengthening policies, economic supports, and community-based child abuse prevention programs at the national, state, and local levels; and

WHEREAS, keeping children and youth from entering the child welfare system decreases their chances of entering the juvenile justice system, and by investing in programming and services on the front-end decreases lifetime justice involvement for youth into adulthood; and

WHEREAS, strengthening families remains the best approach to promoting brighter childhoods.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE DENVER CITY COUNCIL:

Section 1. That the Denver City Council hereby proclaims April as National Child Abuse Prevention Month in Denver and urges all residents to recognize this month by building a narrative of hope for children and families through collaboration and promoting an ecosystem of primary prevention.

Section 2. That the Clerk and Recorder of the City and County of Denver shall affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to The Denver Department of Human Services.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL April 21, 2025

PRESIDENT