

The Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County, California

In the matter of proclaiming April 2022 as Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Resolution No. 2022/145

WHEREAS, as a community, we have a responsibility to nurture and protect our children and help ensure they become healthy and productive adults; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect affect children of all ages, races and income, and is 100 percent preventable; and

WHEREAS, in Contra Costa County, the Child Abuse Prevention Council (CAPC) and Child Protective Services (CPS), a program of Children & Family Services within the Employment and Human Services Department, collaborate to continue protecting children via preventive services, response, intervention and investigation; and

WHEREAS, despite outreach and community efforts, the rising number of reported child abuse cases remains a great concern and highlights the need for individuals and communities to work together to increase protection and improve services for children who are mistreated or neglected; and

WHEREAS, more than 4 million cases of child abuse, per year, are reported across the country. Two of the major risk factors leading to child oppression and neglect are family isolation and stress; and

WHEREAS, experiencing physical assault or witnessing violence early in life can become a cycle passed down, through generations, and children exposed to violence may consider it acceptable. Therefore, the cycle of violence continues and can lead to other violent or dangerous actions; and

WHEREAS, children who have experienced maltreatment are nine times more likely to become involved in criminal activities; and

WHEREAS, we cannot put a dollar value on the life of a child; however, we can work together to help end the tragedy of child abuse by supporting children and families. The benefits of implementing prevention programs greatly outweigh the substantial economic costs of ill-treatment; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, the cumulative financial impact to Contra Costa County, for the 720 verified survivors of maltreatment, was \$338,000,000; and

WHEREAS, these costs accrued over the course of survivors' lives, yet the community will continue to incur the same cost each year, until we are able to reduce and ultimately end child abuse; and

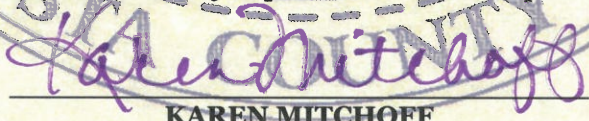
WHEREAS, most experts believe the number of incidents of persecution are far greater than what is reported. Early intervention is critical for preventing abuse and can positively impact at-risk families protecting children; and

WHEREAS, in Contra Costa County, there are numerous committed agencies, parents, relatives, community volunteers, public policymakers and professionals who collaborate to eliminate child brutalization and give our children hope, security and safety; and

WHEREAS, CAPC is a child abuse prevention service provider to Contra Costa County and urges community members to report suspected child mistreatment to law enforcement, child welfare agencies or other network hotlines; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County does hereby proclaim April 2022 to be Child Abuse Prevention Month; recognizes the efforts of the Child Abuse Prevention Council and Children & Family Services of the Employment and Human Services Department; and acknowledges both agencies for their dedication to preventing child mistreatment, within Contra Costa County.

PASSED by a unanimous vote of the Board of Supervisors members present this 26th day of April 2022.



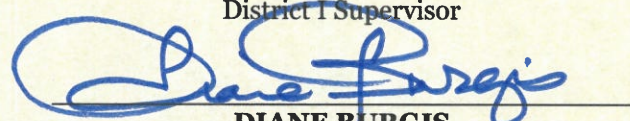
KAREN MITCHOFF
Chair,
District IV Supervisor



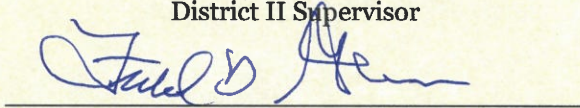
JOHN GIOIA
District I Supervisor



CANDACE ANDERSEN
District II Supervisor



DIANE BURGIS
District III Supervisor



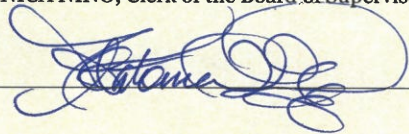
FEDERAL D. GLOVER
District V Supervisor



I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown:

ATTESTED: April 26, 2022

MONICA NINO, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors and County Administrator

By , Deputy