

NEVADA COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

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NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: April 23, 2024

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Rachel Peña

SUBJECT: Resolution proclaiming April 2024 as Child Abuse and Neglect

Prevention Month in Nevada County.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the attached Resolution.

FUNDING: N/A

BACKGROUND: April is recognized nationally as Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month. Nevada County is making a community wide effort to recognize our collective responsibility to prevent and confront all forms of child abuse and neglect. Child abuse is completely preventable and with the help of our community we can ensure that all children in Nevada County are safe and healthy.

Nevada County Child Welfare Services (CWS) received 1,222 child abuse and neglect reports in 2023. About 23% of these referrals resulted in findings of some form of abuse and/or neglect. Many of these referrals are opened into a Rapid Response Team referral, Voluntary Family Maintenance case, Court Ordered Family Maintenance case, or Family Reunification case providing mental health, parenting, addiction, case management, housing, health care, and many other services to parents and families.

With prevention and early intervention services most families improve their health and well-being. CWS works closely with the Child Abuse Prevention Council of Nevada County (CAPCNC) to support prevention efforts in our community. CAPCNC is committed to the well-being and safety of children. They do this through:

- Coordination of agencies serving children and families, in collaboration with the Community Support Network and the Child Abuse Prevention Council.
- Identification of gaps, needs, strengths and areas of improvement related to services.
- Coordination of local trainings for service providers and community members.

- Community awareness campaigns.
- Assisting in the creation of the Children's Bill of Rights for Nevada County.

It is recommended the Board approve the attached Resolution proclaiming April 2024 Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month and urge all citizens to dedicate themselves to the task of improving the quality of life for all children and families.

Item Initiated and Approved by: Rachel Peña, LCSW Director of Social Services