

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

131A



FROM: Department of Public Social Services

SUBMITTAL DATE:
4/8/04

SUBJECT: Child Abuse Prevention Month

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

That the Board of Supervisors proclaim April 2004 to be Child Abuse Prevention Month.

BACKGROUND:

Child abuse remains a serious problem in our communities. Successful prevention and intervention requires the commitment of the entire community to nurture the growth of safe and stable families and ensure the welfare of future generations.

The Department of Public Social Services receives an average of 1,986 referrals for child abuse and neglect per month. In calendar year 2003, the Department received 23,833 referrals.

Dennis J. Boyle

Dennis J. Boyle, Director

FINANCIAL DATA	Current F.Y. Total Cost:	\$ 0	In Current Year Budget:	N/A
	Current F.Y. Net County Cost:	\$ 0	Budget Adjustment:	N/A
	Annual Net County Cost:	\$ 0	For Fiscal Year:	FY 03/04

SOURCE OF FUNDS: N/A	Positions To Be Deleted Per A-30	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Requires 4/5 Vote	<input type="checkbox"/>

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVE

County Executive Office Signature

Dan Matting

- Dep't Recomm.: Consent Policy
- Per Exec. Ofc.: Consent Policy

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
 RECEIVED
 APR 15 AM 8:02
 OFFICE EXECUTIVE

Prev. Agn. Ref.: _____ **District:** All **Agenda Number:** _____

2.12

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BACKGROUND (Cont.):

Currently there are 4,544 children in out-of-home care. 49% of the children are placed with Relatives and Legal Guardians, and 51% in Non-Relative placements. There are 6,381 children receiving Family Maintenance, Family Reunification and Permanent Placement Services.

DPSS currently contracts with community-based, non-profit organizations. These contractors provide services to reduce the incidence of child abuse by helping parents resolve their issues with substance abuse, domestic violence, parenting skills, education, homemaking, and basic living skills. Contractors also provide prevention and early intervention services to prevent problems from intensifying, thus reducing the necessity of removing children from their homes in order to ensure their safety.

DPSS enjoys an outstanding collaborative relationship with county and city law enforcement personnel, the District Attorney's Office, the school system and the Riverside County Regional Medical Center; all of who are directly involved in issues related to the prevention of child abuse as well as the tragic results of child abuse.

It truly does take an entire community to raise a child. The Department of Public Social Services is proud to work with its community partners and the many private citizens, whose efforts help make Riverside county a safer place for our children.

DB:SL:clh

DRAFT

PROCLAMATION
CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH
APRIL 2004

WHEREAS, children deserve a safe, stable and permanent home in order to become productive members of our society; and

WHEREAS, child abuse is found in families of all social and economic classes and every racial and ethnic group; and

WHEREAS, child abuse impacts the entire community and finding solutions depends on community involvement to nurture family growth and plant seeds for future generations; and

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships created among social service agencies, schools, religious organizations, law enforcement agencies and the business community; and

WHEREAS, through the continued work of volunteers, parents, community partners, policy makers and professionals, child abuse may be eradicated, giving our children a bright, successful future; and

WHEREAS, all citizens should become more aware of child abuse and its prevention within the community, and become more involved in supporting parents to raise their children in a safe, nurturing environment.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE KNOWN, that the BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, does hereby proclaim the month of April 2004, as

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

And urges all its residents to become more aware of this county-wide problem and do what they can to prevent child abuse in their communities.