

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

709A



FROM: Department of Public Social Services

SUBMITTAL DATE:
April 15, 2008

SUBJECT: CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

That the Board of Supervisors declare April 2008 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in the County of Riverside and approve the attached proclamation.

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.

In Calendar Year 2007, DPSS received 57,970 calls to the Child Abuse Hotline. Of those calls, 24,184 were referred for investigation, which is an average of 2,015 referrals for child abuse and neglect per month.

Susan Loew

Susan Loew, 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 07/08

SOURCE OF FUNDS: N/A

Positions To Be Deleted Per A-30
Requires 4/5 Vote

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION: APPROVE

BY: *Debra Cournoyer*
Debra Cournoyer

County Executive Office Signature

Prev. Agn. Ref.: 4/3/07, # 2.8

District: All

Agenda Number:

2.3

FORM APPROVED COUNTY COUNSEL
BY: NEAL R. KIPNIS DATE

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

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BACKGROUND (Cont.):

Currently there are 5,387 children in out-of-home care. 46% of the children are placed with Relatives and Legal Guardians, and 54% in Non-Relative placements. There are 7,766 children receiving Family Maintenance, Family Reunification and Permanent Placement Services.

DPSS, in collaboration with Prevent Child Abuse Riverside County, 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 has made a point of developing strong collaborative relationships with county and city law enforcement personnel, the District Attorney's Office, the school system and the Riverside County Regional Medical Center, to promote the prevention of child abuse as well as respond to incidents of child abuse.

It truly takes 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 to make Riverside County a safer place for our children.

SL:mf

PROCLAMATION
CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH
APRIL 2008

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 inspire 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, Prevent Child Abuse Riverside County works in collaboration with the Department of Public Social Services to educate the public to reduce the incidence of child abuse and provide other services to help alleviate its effects; 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.; and

WHEREAS, Prevent Child Abuse Riverside County joins in partnership with the County of Riverside to devote resources and efforts throughout the year that focus on positive parenting and the promotion of healthy and safe families in our communities.

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 2008 as

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

and urges all its residents to become more aware of this Countywide problem, and do what they can to prevent child abuse in their communities.