

March 03, 2017

REQUESTED PROCLAMATIONS

WHEATLAND CITY COUNCIL
313 MAIN STREET/P.O.BOX 395
WHEATLAND, CA 95692

Dear Council Members:

All children deserve to have a safe, secure, enriching, nurturing, and loving childhood. All children have a right to have fun, to ask for what they need, to say no, to be respected and accepted for who they are. All children have a right to be believed, to have feelings and ideas and to express them. All children have a right to grow up in a stable, loving environment free from abuse and neglect.

Preventing child abuse is an effort that schools, neighborhoods, and communities should all undertake. That is why every year we come before you and request your support in proclaiming April as Child Abuse Prevention Month. Every year Casa de Esperanza has sponsored a Blue Ribbon campaign. We ask the community to join us in wearing and displaying blue ribbons. Every year you have shown your support to the abused children of our community through your proclamation. This year we again ask for your support. By working together we hope to minimize and eliminate child abuse. I ask each and every one of your to speak up about what you will do to eliminate child abuse in our community. What will you do?

We ask that collectively, your Council help us kick off the beginning of the month by adopting a proclamation (example attached). We invite you to wear a blue ribbon and to hang blue ribbons on your home and your car mirror during the month of April. This will be evidence of your personal commitment to ending the tragedy of child abuse, as well as support to those individuals and agencies that daily fight the battle against child abuse.

We appreciate the support you have provided in the past and look forward to your continuing support in the future.

If you would like additional information regarding child abuse, or if you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at (530) 674-5400.

Sincerely,

Linda Hodges
Director, Client Services
Casa de Esperanza

**PROCLAMATION
CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH
APRIL 2017**

WHEREAS, the tragedy of child abuse and neglect affects every community in California and touches the lives of far too many citizens regardless of cultural, ethnic, religious or socioeconomic level; and

WHEREAS, the threat to our children's welfare is demonstrated by steady increases in the number and in the seriousness of reported cases of child abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, if our children are to become productive adults, they should have the right to a childhood free from neglect, physical abuse, sexual molestation and exploitation; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized that primary prevention programs designed to work with children themselves, their parents, and care givers within the community are successful in preventing first time abuse situations; and

WHEREAS, early identification and intervention are essential to successfully interrupting the generational cycle of abuse and neglect. Collaboration among professionals, concerned parents, volunteers and policy makers can help to reduce the level of child abuse and neglect in our communities; and

WHEREAS, dedicated volunteers and professionals are working to decrease the incidence of child abuse through prevention programs and coordination among agencies delivering services to child abuse victims and their families; and

WHEREAS, the observance of Child Abuse Prevention Month provides an excellent opportunity for all citizens to reflect on this tragic crime, while rededicating themselves to taking an active role in child abuse prevention activities in their community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wheatland City Council does hereby proclaim **APRIL 2017 AS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH IN THE CITY OF WHEATLAND** and encourages all residents to join with local community efforts in making sure that **EVERY CHILD HAS THE RIGHT TO GROW UP IN A STABLE, LOVING ENVIRONMENT FREE FROM ABUSE AND NEGLECT.**

Rick West, Mayor