



## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS,** child abuse is a serious public health issue affecting every segment of our community, with wide-ranging societal impacts including costly medical, emotional, psychological, and behavioral issues into adulthood; and

**WHEREAS,** the effects of child abuse and neglect are felt by whole communities, and child abuse can have long-term psychological, emotional, and physical effects that have lasting consequences for victims of abuse; and

**WHEREAS,** according to the National Children's Alliance, more than 600,000 children are abused in the U.S. each year, with neglect being the most common form of abuse. The youngest children are most vulnerable, and more than a quarter of child abuse and neglect victims are no more than 2 years old; and

**WHEREAS,** parents and caregivers who have a support system of family and friends, have access to public resources, and learn skills to help remain resilient in challenging times are best equipped to provide safe, stable, and nurturing environments for their children; and

**WHEREAS,** a united and comprehensive effort across multiple systems create healthy parents with family-supporting jobs, healthy children meeting developmental milestones, and better-connected individuals who are able to participate in civic and family life.

**NOW THEREFORE, I,** Meredith Leighty, Mayor of the City of Northglenn, Colorado do hereby proclaim the month of April 2024 as:

### **CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND AWARENESS MONTH**

in the City of Northglenn and urge all residents to recognize this month by dedicating ourselves to prevent child abuse and neglect by learning how to recognize the signs of abuse and making every effort to promote programs and activities that create strong and thriving children and families.

Dated, at Northglenn, Colorado, this 25<sup>th</sup> day of March 2024.

---

MEREDITH LEIGHTY  
Mayor

