



April 1, 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
APRIL IS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

(Bakersfield, CA) – On **Tuesday, March 23, 2021**, the Kern County Board of Supervisors proclaimed April as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Kern County. During the month of April, the Department of Human Services, will highlight the importance of child abuse prevention in Kern County and ask the community to help prevent child abuse and neglect. Child Abuse Prevention Month is an opportunity to promote community awareness regarding the serious problem of child abuse and encourage the needed positive actions to stop preventable harm to children in our community.

April's focus will include "**Wear Blue Day,**" on **April 1, 2021**, to remind our community of the ongoing need to help stop child abuse. On Friday, April 23, 2021, we will share our Child Memorial Flag Raising Video to honor the five children who died in Kern County in 2020 and urge our county's citizen to join us in our efforts to end these senseless acts against our children.

Sunday, April 25, 2021, is Blue Sunday. In essence, this day is set-aside as a National Day of Prayer to remind us to intercede for abused and neglected children. Our CityServe Partners have joined with the following statement, "We at CityServe believe wholeheartedly in the mission and challenge the faith community to go a step further – to strengthen the American family so kids stay safe in their homes and empower churches to go all in when caring for children who are waiting for their forever families."

Additionally, the Department of Human Services in collaboration with the Kern County Network for Children is providing a free on line training to help our community recognize the signs of child abuse and neglect. This training will be offered throughout the year with the next opportunity on April 9, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. via zoom. Viewers can log on to <https://kcsos.zoom.us/j/6016178075>.

For more information about Child Abuse Prevention Month, please view our website www.kcdhs.org or contact Jana Slagle at 661/342-8054.

To report suspected abuse or neglect, call (661) 631-6011.

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