

April 2, 2024

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
**APRIL IS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH**

(Bakersfield, CA) – On **Tuesday, April 9, 2024**, the Kern County Board of Supervisors will proclaim 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.

The County Administrative Building on Truxtun will be lit up in blue throughout the month of April, as a reminder that we all play a part in protecting children and reporting suspected child abuse.

April's focus will include a DHS sponsored Resource Fair, aimed at equipping our staff with supportive services available to help prevent child abuse and further empower children and families.

Friday, April 5, 2024 is "Wear Blue for Kids" in support of Child Abuse Prevention Month, which will include an informational social media campaign.

KCDHS' podcast, "*The Heartbeat of Human Services*" will release a podcast on Monday, April 8, 2024 about the "Parent's As Teacher's Program." <https://parentsasteachers.org/> Listen in to learn how this program is designed to support parents.

A Free Virtual Training for the community is available and provided by our partners at the Kern County Network for Children (KCNC): Thursday, April 18, 2024 at 8:30 a.m. entitled, "Drug Endangered Children Awareness and Drug Endangered Children Approach." This virtual training is free to the public, and will be taught by Eric Nation, Director of Training and Development and Stacey Read, Director of DEC Network Development from the National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children. Those interested do not need to register, and can join using the link: <https://bit.ly/April18thTraining>

On Friday, April 26, 2024, DHS will release our 2024 Child Memorial video to honor children who died in the last year due to abuse or neglect.

Sunday, April 28, 2024, is Blue Sunday [www.bluesunday.org](http://www.bluesunday.org). In essence, this day is set-aside as a National Day of Prayer to remind us to intercede for abused and neglected children. Churches throughout the county are partnering on Blue Sunday and sharing this important message.

For more information about Child Abuse Prevention Month, please visit [www.kcdhs.org](http://www.kcdhs.org) or contact Jana Slagle at 661/342-8054.  
**To report suspected child abuse in Kern County, please call 661/633.7011.**



GROUND  BOUNDLESS