



**HONORARY PROCLAMATION
DECLARING THE MONTH OF APRIL 2023 AS
"MONTH OF THE CHILD" AND
"CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH"**

WHEREAS, the Arroyo Grande City Council recognizes that every moment in a child's life is an opportunity for that child to learn, that the quality of these experiences may determine whether a child succeeds in school and in life, and that all children need caring and loving adults in their lives; and

WHEREAS, April - Month of the Child and Child Abuse Prevention Month - marks a time to recognize that our community's children are precious, that the quality of their early years is our collective responsibility, and that we commit ourselves to ensuring that each and every child experiences a high quality early environment – at home, at child care, at school and in the community – that will promote their optimal development; and

WHEREAS, in solidarity with the We Are The Care Initiative, we as a community of partners and leaders envision a San Luis Obispo County where all families can find and afford quality care for their children, and where child care professionals are valued for their critical role in building a solid foundation for children and families to thrive in the world; and

WHEREAS, Saturday, April 8, 2023, will commemorate "Day of the Child" at the Annual Children's Day in the Plaza celebration from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm in the San Luis Obispo Mission Plaza, where children and families will have the opportunity to discover creativity, individuality, diversity and the arts while exploring community resources; and

WHEREAS, on Friday, April 28, 2023, San Luis Obispo County will participate in the statewide raising of the Children's Memorial Flag to honor and raise awareness about the many children in our midst who suffer daily from abuse and neglect, and pledge our support for strategies that strengthen families and protect our young ones; and

WHEREAS, April is also National Child Abuse Prevention Month, raising awareness and recognizing that each of us has a role to play in ensuring the safety of our children, as we pledge our support for strategies that strengthen families and protect our young ones; by promoting We Are the Care's "Normalizing Parenting" campaign and introducing Children's Memorial Day in a virtual ceremony Friday April 28, 2023 at 1:00 pm with We Are the Care's Child Abuse Prevention Council colleagues throughout California.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Caren Ray Russom, Mayor of the City of Arroyo Grande, do hereby proclaim April 2023 as the "Month of the Child" and "Child Abuse Prevention Month".

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Arroyo Grande to be affixed this 28th day of March 2023.



CAREN RAY RUSSOM, MAYOR