

**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF YAMHILL**

PROCLAMATION

NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH – APRIL 2019

Whereas, child abuse is considered to be one of our nation’s most serious public health problems with scientific studies documenting the link between the abuse and neglect of children and a wide range of medical, emotional, psychological and behavioral disorders; and

Whereas, it is estimated that 1 in 4 children will suffer significant abuse before the age of 18. Annually over 80,000 Oregon children are reported to the Department of Human Services as having been abused or neglected. There were over 10,000 child abuse victims confirmed in 2018 alone; and

Whereas, the physical, emotional, and financial impact of abuse and neglect falls most heavily on children of all ages and abilities, who come from all economic, racial and social backgrounds. These crimes affect many more family members, friends, neighbors, and coworkers; and

Whereas, a trauma-informed response to victims promotes healing and fosters strength in survivors; and

Whereas, child victims and their family with knowledge of their rights and available services further strengthens their ability to recover by restoring a sense of self-empowerment; and

Whereas, effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because partnerships created among state and local government agencies, schools, faith communities, civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community; and

Whereas, the City of Yamhill is dedicated to strengthening child abuse survivors and their non-offending families in the aftermath of crime, building resilience in our communities, and working to prevent abuse and neglect;

Now, Therefore, I, Yvette Potter, Mayor of the City of Yamhill do hereby proclaim April 2019 to be:

National Child Abuse Prevention Month

We reaffirm the City of Yamhill, Oregon’s commitment to creating a safer healthier, more thriving community for our children and taking steps to help prevent child abuse through awareness efforts, prevention promotion and training. Further, we call upon all citizens to invest in the lives of all our children, to be aware of their safety and well-being, and celebrate those who provide prevention programs and support to child victims of violence, sexual abuse and neglect and many other life altering crimes and their commitment to ensuring that all children are afforded their rights to be safe from harm, as well as promote the psychological, physical, and emotional healing and ongoing development of these our most precious resource, our children. Further we as and encourage all citizens to “**Wear Blue**” on April 10, 2019 as a public statement in our county in support of child abuse prevention!

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this 13th day of March 2019.


Mayor Yvette Potter

ATTEST:


City Recorder, Lori Gilmore