

Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors Proclamation

DECLARING APRIL AS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect continue to pose a serious threat to our nation's children, as evidenced by the fact that in 2004, 3 million reports were made to child protective service agencies in the United States about the safety and well-being of more than 5.5 million children; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that for every three dollars spent on the prevention of child abuse and neglect, at least six dollars are saved that might be spent on child welfare services, special education services, medical care, foster care, counseling, and the housing of juvenile offenders; and

WHEREAS, April has been designated as Child Abuse Prevention Month by Presidential Proclamation since 1983 when Congress recognized the need to bring national attention to the serious problem of child abuse; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect is a community problem, and finding solutions depends on the involvement of people throughout the community; and

WHEREAS, promoting healthy families is the best investment communities can make to ensure that children are safe, valued and cared for; and

WHEREAS, all children deserve to be loved and to grow up in safe and nurturing environments; and

WHEREAS, this year's Child Abuse Prevention Month campaign in Santa Cruz County is entitled "It takes a community to raise a child"; and

WHEREAS, a coalition of Santa Cruz County organizations is partnering with business, professional, and community groups to promote local resources to support and strengthen families and to ensure the safety of children in our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ellen Pirie, Chairperson of the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors, hereby declare the month of April, 2008, as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Santa Cruz County.



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ellen Pirie".

Chairperson, Board of Supervisors

March 24, 2008

Date