<b>RESOLUTION #</b>	
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## PROCLAIMING APRIL 2023 TO BE CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH

WHEREAS, Children are our future. No child should suffer abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, victims of child abuse and neglect are known to be at higher risk for experiencing post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, low academic achievement, drug use, juvenile delinquency, teenage pregnancy, and adult criminality, every child is precious and deserves to grow up in a healthy, safe, nurturing environment free from harmful effects of abuse and neglect; and,

WHEREAS, in Laramie County and in the City of Cheyenne, 146 children received child forensic interviews at Safe Harbor, 68 being victims of sexual abuse, 34 of physical abuse, 8 of neglect, 12 witness to domestic violence, 23 exposed to drugs usage in the home and 1 victim of child pornography; and,

WHEREAS, effective child abuse intervention and community prevention programs succeed because of partnerships created among community members, social services and law enforcement agencies, schools, churches, businesses, and civic organizations; and

WHEREAS, each April, Laramie County along with Safe Harbor, a children's justice center, the Laramie County Child Protection Team, the Laramie County Department of Family Services, Cheyenne Police Department, the Laramie County Sheriff's office, Laramie County District Attorney's office, CRMC SANE Nurse Program, CASA of Laramie County, Wyoming Citizen Review Panel and Parents as Teachers, and other partners join together in an effort to prevent abuse and neglect through outreach, education, and intervention.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** the Laramie County Commissioners do herby proclaim the month of April 2023, to be Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month in Laramie County and urge all citizens to work together to help reduce child abuse and neglect significantly in years to come.

PRESENTED, READ AND ADOPTED this day of April, 2023.

## BOARD OF LARAMIE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS Chairman, Laramie County Commissioners Date ATTEST: Debra Lee, Laramie County Clerk Approved/as to form: All Date Date Date Date