

**PROCLAMATION**

***WHEREAS, preventing child abuse and neglect is a community problem that depends on involvement among people throughout the community; and***

***WHEREAS, child maltreatment occurs when people find themselves in stressful situations, without community resources, and don't know how to cope; and***

***WHEREAS, the majority of child abuse cases stem from situations and conditions that are preventable in an engaged and supportive community; and***

***WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect can be reduced by making sure each family has the support they need to raise their children in a healthy environment; and***

***WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect not only directly harm children, but also increase the likelihood of criminal behavior, drug abuse, and risky behavior such as smoking and alcohol abuse; and***

***WHEREAS, all citizens should become involved in supporting families in raising their children in a safe, nurturing environment; and***

***WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships created among social service agencies, schools, faith communities, civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community.***

***NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bruce Hill, by the power vested in me as Mayor of the City of Grand Junction, do hereby proclaim April, 2010 as***

***“CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH”***

***in the City of Grand Junction and call upon all citizens, community agencies, religious organizations, medical facilities, and businesses to increase their participation in our efforts to prevent child abuse, thereby strengthening the communities in which we live.***

***IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official Seal of the City of Grand Junction this 5<sup>th</sup> day of April 2010.***

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***Mayor***