

**PROCLAMATION
DECLARING APRIL 2011
AS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH**

WHEREAS, child abuse is a national tragedy with an estimated 702,000 (2009 data) annual victims of substantiated abuse or neglect in the United States; and

WHEREAS, a report of child abuse is made every ten seconds. Almost five children die everyday as a result of child abuse. More than three out of four are under the age of 4; and

WHEREAS, 78 percent of child abuse victims experienced neglect, 18 percent were physically abused, 10 percent were sexually abused and 8 percent were emotionally or psychologically maltreated; and

WHEREAS, the estimated annual cost of child abuse and neglect is \$104 billion, according to a 2007 study conducted by Prevent Child Abuse America; and

WHEREAS, scientific studies confirm a direct link between child abuse and a significantly greater risk later in life of alcoholism, depression, drug abuse, eating disorders, obesity, sexual promiscuity, smoking, suicide and certain chronic diseases; and

WHEREAS, in Yolo County in 2009, approximately 210 children resided in supervised out-of-home placements; and

WHEREAS, in 2009 in Yolo County, 100 children continued living with their own families, which received ongoing support services and supervision through the Child Welfare Services Family Maintenance Program; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that children with disabilities are four to ten times more vulnerable to sexual abuse than their on-disabled peers; and

WHEREAS, in Yolo County there are numerous committed agencies, parents, relatives, community volunteers, public policymakers and professionals who are collaborating their efforts to eliminate child abuse in the county and give our children hope, security and safety; and

WHEREAS, all members of the community have a role to play in strengthening families to ensure children are valued and supported, and share in the responsibility to offer parents the education, support and skills they need to provide healthy, safe and nurturing homes for their children.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Joe Krovoza, Mayor of Davis on behalf of the Davis City Council do hereby proclaim April 2011 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in the City of Davis and Yolo County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED, that Yolo County officials, employees and residents are encouraged to join the important efforts of the Rotary Club of Davis, the Yolo County Children's Alliance & Child Abuse Prevention Council, First 5 Yolo Children and Families Commission, Yolo County Department of Employment and Social Services, Yolo County Juvenile Court, Yolo County's licensed foster care homes and the many public and private agencies and programs serving children and families in Yolo County. These agencies work together to prevent child abuse and neglect and build healthy, safe and strong families and communities. Children do well when their parents do well — and families do better when they live in supportive communities.

Dated: April 5, 2011

Joseph F. Krovoza
Mayor