



News Release

Jefferson County Human Services
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Join Together for National Child Abuse Prevention Month

(Golden, CO) - April is [National Child Abuse Prevention Month](#), a month committed to raising awareness and preventing child abuse. Children are our future and while they are our most valuable resource, they are also the most vulnerable. While we may not like to think child abuse and neglect can happen in this community, it does. In Jefferson County, 7636 referrals of abuse were reported in 2010.

Children have a right to be safe and be provided with opportunities to excel in life. The Jefferson County [Children, Youth & Families Division](#) constantly strives to prevent child abuse and raise awareness. They do this by educating the community and by directly supporting and strengthening Jefferson County families. Direct outreach to the families is an opportunity for children to develop trust along with healthy family relationships.

In honor of this month, Governor Hickenlooper signed an official proclamation for Child Abuse Prevention. In the proclamation, the Governor stresses the importance of community in this effort. "We must come together as partners so that the voices of our children are heard by all and as a community we should extend a hand for children and families in need."

Throughout the month of April, Jefferson County Human Services will hang blue ribbons in the Human Services building, 900 Jefferson Pkwy, in honor of children who have faced such tragedy. Other events and fundraisers are planned with money raised going to the [Ralston House](#) a community resource which provides services for abused children and their families in a safe place.

"National Child Abuse Prevention Month is a time to increase awareness around child abuse and neglect. Children thrive in healthy strong families through the support of great communities like Jefferson County. I would like to encourage the community to report any child abuse and to become involved in helping families thrive by keeping children in our community safe - not just this month but all year long," states Mary Berg, Children, Youth & Families Division Director.

If you witness child abuse or even suspect it may be happening please call and report it to the Jefferson County Child Abuse Hotline at 303-271-HELP. For more information visit the Jefferson County [Children, Youth & Families Division](#) online or call 303-271-4015.

When caring communities step up to support struggling children and families, the devastating effects of broken lives can be changed.