

April 1, 2026

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
APRIL IS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

(Bakersfield, CA) – On Tuesday, March 24, 2026, the Kern County Board of Supervisors proclaimed April as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Kern County. The Kern County Department of Human Services (KCDHS) will spotlight the importance of child abuse prevention and urge the community to help protect children.

The County Administrative Building on Truxtun Avenue will be illuminated in blue throughout April 2026, reminding everyone of their role in safeguarding children and reporting suspected child abuse.

Child Abuse Prevention Month is an opportunity to promote community awareness and to encourage positive actions needed to stop preventable harm to children. The Kern County Department of Human Services (KCDHS) will partner with the Kern County Network for Children (KCNC), and numerous committed agencies, parents, relatives, community volunteers, public policymakers and professionals to improve child well-being in the county and give our children hope, security and safety. Activities that will be held during the month of April include the following:

- April, All Month Long—"Stronger Families Donation Drive" in Honor of Child Abuse Prevention Month: Collecting child-safety items to support families served through local programs dedicated to preventing child abuse.
- In April our Podcast, The Heartbeat of Human Services Podcast will release the episode titled "**Stronger Together: Conversation on Family Support Centers**" Presenting the Open Door Network, Greenfield FRC, and the voices of families with lived experiences.
- Thursday, April 9th— from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. "**Domestic Violence and Mandated Reporter Training**" led by Kern County Department of Human Services, hosted by KCNC. Register to attend in-person at www.bit.ly/KCNCIn-Person-April9th and to attend virtually at www.bit.ly/KCNCTraining-April9th
- Friday, April 10th— "Wear Blue Day" in support of Child Abuse Prevention Month – Social Media Campaign #WearBlueDay2026
- Thursday, April 16th— from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. "2026 Strong Families, Safer Futures Resource Event" in honor of April Child Abuse Prevention Month. This event honors the children who tragically passed away in 2025 due to child abuse and neglect and highlights the vital work of Family Resource Centers and community organizations dedicated to prevention.

Every child deserves to grow up safe, supported, and loved. A Memorial flag raising and pinwheel display will be held during this event. Location: Bakersfield Marriott at the Convention Center, 801 Truxtun Ave, Bakersfield, Ca.

- **Monday, April 20th**— from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. “**Healthy Outcomes From Positive Experiences Training**” led by The HOPE National Resource Center, hosted by KCNC & KCSOS Register to attend in-person at www.bit.ly/KCNCIn-Person-April20th and to attend virtually at www.bit.ly/KCNCTraining-April20th

In honor of Child Abuse Prevention Month we are also inviting our faith-based partners to participate in “Blue Sunday” on April 26, 2026. This is a day designated nationally to pray for and remember the victims of child abuse and all who work to rescue them. Visit www.bluesunday.org for more information.

For more information about Child Abuse Prevention Month and events occurring during the month of April please visit <https://www.kcdhs.org/cap> or contact the Outreach and Communications Team at social@kerndhs.com.

To report suspected child abuse in Kern County, please call **661-633-7011**.