

CITY OF KIRKLAND

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**CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE
MEMORANDUM**

To: David Ramsay, City Manager

From: Marie Stake, Communications Program Manager

Date: March 19, 2008

Subject: Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation

RECOMMENDATION:

Council authorizes the Mayor to sign the Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation.

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION:

Keri Andrews and Jean-Pierre Ruiz, advisory board members of the Children's Response Center, will be present at the April 1st City Council meeting to receive the Child Abuse Prevention Month proclamation. The Children's Response Center provides services for children who have been sexually assaulted or are victims of other trauma via counseling and legal and medical advocacy. The Center raises community awareness about the issue of child abuse and provides training on issues such as child maltreatment and prevention of abuse. The City of Kirkland funds the Children's Response Center approximately \$16,500 annually.

The City Council has supported the Child Abuse Prevention Month proclamation since 2002.



A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND

Designating the month of April, 2008 as “Child Abuse Prevention Month” of the City of Kirkland

WHEREAS, child abuse is a community problem and finding solutions depends on collaborative efforts among people in the community; and

WHEREAS, approximately 3 million children are reported abused and neglected in this country each year; and

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships created among social service agencies, schools, religious and civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, the medical and business community; and

WHEREAS, all citizens should become more aware of the negative effects of child abuse and its prevention within the community, and become involved in supporting parents to raise their children in a safe, nurturing, and healthy environment; and

WHEREAS, Children’s Response Center serves the Kirkland community providing support to children and families who have been impacted by abuse, and promotes awareness on issues concerning abused and neglected children;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, James L. Lauinger, Mayor of Kirkland, do hereby proclaim the month of April, 2008 as *Child Abuse Prevention Month* in the City of Kirkland and call upon all citizens, community agencies, religious organizations, medical facilities, and businesses to participate in our efforts to prevent child abuse by wearing or displaying a blue ribbon in April, as a positive reminder that together we can prevent child abuse in the communities in which we live.

Signed this 1st day of April, 2008

James L. Lauinger, Mayor