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PRESS RELEASE

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COMMISSIONERS PROCLAIM APRIL CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH

WELD COUNTY, CO – During this morning’s Board meeting, the Weld County Commissioners proclaimed April as Child Abuse Awareness Month. The proclamation, which was read into the record today, highlights the importance of preventing child abuse especially through community support.

“You truly work for the people – those who can’t speak for themselves, that don’t have a voice,” said Commissioner Chairman Douglas Rademacher. “Thank you for what you do every day.”

Heather Walker, from the Department of Human Services, was in attendance to accept the proclamation along with Gwen Schooley, Executive Director of A Kid’s Place and Caroline Gelatt, Coordinator for United Way of Weld County Promises for Children program.

“We consider you, as well as our staff, part of Team Weld,” said Commissioner Barbara Kirkmeyer to Schooley and Gelatt. “Sometimes it’s not the most glamorous job, or a job that people would want to have or even volunteer for, but the work you do is so important – we can’t underscore that enough.”

According to the United Way of Weld County web site, Promises for Children, Weld County’s Early Childhood Council, is a community partnership dedicated to improving the well-being of all children in Weld County by focusing on the critical growth and brain development period from pre-birth to eight years of age to promote school readiness and lifelong success.

A Kid’s Place provides advocacy and support for abused and neglected children by advancing coordinated investigations, prosecution and victim services.

Both organizations work closely with the County’s Department of Human Services to help children in need.

“Hopefully, one day, we will work ourselves out of a job,” said Walker. “That is our hope.”

To learn more about programs that assist children, please visit:

<https://www.co.weld.co.us/Departments/HumanServices/index.html>

<http://www.akidsplace.org/default.aspx>

<http://www.unitedway-weld.org/promisesforchildren>

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