

STATE OF MONTANA



Governor's Proclamation



WHEREAS, there are approximately 100,000 victims of child physical abuse nationally each year and there were approximately 154 abuse victims in Montana in 2021; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the earliest signs of physical abuse may prevent tragic outcomes; and

WHEREAS, bruising is the most common and visible sign of physical abuse, with the bruising clinical decision rule known as TEN-4 FACESp to help identify bruising characteristics that have been demonstrated to differentiate abuse from accidental injuries; and,

WHEREAS, the TEN-4 FACESp acronym stands to help identify abusive bruising to the Torso, Ears, Neck, Frenulum, Angle of the jaw, Cheek, Eyelid, or Subconjunctivae ("TEN-FACES"), with the "4" drawing attention to infants four months and younger, and the "p" serving as a reminder to look for the presence of patterned bruising; and,

WHEREAS, the majority of child physical abuse victims are younger than four years of age, a vulnerable population whose safety and well-being relies on adults to intervene and protect;

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Greg Gianforte, Governor of the State of Montana, do hereby proclaim
October 4, 2024*

TEN-4 DAY

in Montana to raise awareness about child abuse and encourage Montanans to educate themselves about TEN-4 as a way to identify and prevent abuse of children.

GREG GIANFORTE
Governor