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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**GOVERNOR GIBBONS PROCLAIMS APRIL  
CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH**

Carson City— Governor Jim Gibbons has issued a proclamation in recognition of April as National Child Abuse Prevention Month, which seeks to call greater attention to the plight of abused and neglected children.

“Our society has a responsibility to protect our children and to help them thrive in our society,” Governor Gibbons said. “During National Child Abuse Prevention Month, we underscore our commitment to preventing child abuse and neglect and to better ensure that all children have the opportunity to grow up in a safe and nurturing environment.”

Nevada Division of Child and Family Services Administrator Fernando Serrano said, “By working together to provide America's young people the love, guidance, and protection they need, we can better protect our youth from abuse and give them the opportunity to achieve their dreams.”

In an effort to raise awareness of the cycle of abuse, several government and community child welfare agencies and organizations in Nevada will plant more than 15,000 pinwheels representing each child abuse report filed in Nevada during 2006.”

Nevada will also be joining with other communities across the country on April 27, 2007, Children’s Memorial Flag Day, to remember the thousands of children lost in the past year alone to violence. The special flag depicts figures of children holding hands. In the center is the outline of a missing child that symbolizes the children lost to violence.

For more information about activities surrounding Child Abuse Prevention Month, contact Chrystal C. Main with the Division of Child and Family Services at (775) 684-4453, or Philip Ulibarri with the Washoe County District Health Department at (775) 328-2448. To view a copy of the Governor’s proclamation, go to [http://gov.state.nv.us/PROCs/2007/2007\\_04-00ChildAbusePreventionMonth.htm](http://gov.state.nv.us/PROCs/2007/2007_04-00ChildAbusePreventionMonth.htm).

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