



TOWN OF RIDGWAY, COLORADO OFFICIAL PROCLAMATION

A Proclamation Declaring October 2024 as Bullying Prevention Month

WHEREAS, bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior among school aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time. The children who are bullied, those who bully others, and those who witness the behaviors may have serious, lasting problems (stopbullying.gov); and

WHEREAS, bullying occurs in neighborhoods, playgrounds, schools, community organizations, and online through technology; and

WHEREAS, various researchers have concluded that bullying is the most common form of violence, affecting millions of American children and adolescents annually; and

WHEREAS, thousands of Colorado children and adolescents are affected by bullying annually, and 1 in 5 students report being bullied; and

WHEREAS, targets of bullying behaviors are at increased risk for depression, anxiety, sleep difficulties, lower academic achievement, and dropping out of school and students who repeatedly experience bullying behaviors often fear such activities as riding the bus, going to school, interacting online, and attending community activities; and

WHEREAS, children who engage in bullying behaviors are at greater risk of engaging in more serious violent behaviors; and

WHEREAS, children who witness bullying behaviors often feel less safe, helpless to stop it, and intimidated; and

WHEREAS, organizations such as PEER Kindness are dedicated to providing support to children and adolescents experiencing the bullying circle, and providing prevention education through partnerships with youth, schools, youth-serving programs, and community leaders and organizations to reduce bullying and foster a PEER Kindness stance (positive, encouraging,

empathetic, respectful, and kind). We urge all citizens to work toward the prevention of bullying and consider pledging to be part of the solution to end bullying in all its forms.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Ridgway Town Council, do hereby recognize the month of October 2024 as “Bullying Prevention Month” in the Town of Ridgway, and urge all community members to engage in a variety of awareness and prevention activities designed to make our communities safer for all children and adolescents.

Dated this 9th day of October 2024

By: _____
John I. Clark, Mayor

Attest: _____
Pam Kraft, Town Clerk