Requested By: Council Member Patrick

Prepared By: Deputy Clerk Adopted: May 11, 1998

CITY OF WASILLA **RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 98-14**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WASILLA, ALASKA SUPPORTING A CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER IN THE WASILLA AREA.

WHEREAS, Alaska has the highest rate of substantiated cases of child abuse in the nation; and

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough has the highest percentage of reports of child sexual abuse in the State; and

WHEREAS, due to the lack of staff the Mat-Su Department of Family and Youth Services investigated only one-third of the 1,439 child abuse and neglect cases reported in 1997; and

WHEREAS, Children's Advocacy Centers are child-focused, neutral based facilities where representatives from many disciplines meet to conduct interviews, provide medical exams, and other services for children who have been abused; and

WHEREAS, the goal of a child advocacy center is to prevent re-traumatization to the child and connect the family with needed services; and

WHEREAS, with different agencies working together more offenders will be held accountable through improved prosecution of child abuse cases.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Wasilla supports a Children's Advocacy Center for the Wasilla Area.

ADOPTED by the City of Wasilla this 11th day of May, 1998.

ATTEST:

KRISTIE L. VANGORDER, CMC/AAE

City Clerk

[SEAL]