



Founded 1876
Incorporated 1899

TOWN OF JEROME, ARIZONA

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PROCLAMATION Week of the Young Child April 11–17, 2026

WHEREAS, all of Arizona’s children deserve access to high-quality early care and education environments that support healthy development and learning; and

WHEREAS, quality childcare and early learning programs help build children’s lifelong learning skills during the critical years from birth to age five; and

WHEREAS, early childhood educators and childcare providers are an essential workforce that enables Arizona parents to participate in the workforce and pursue education; and

WHEREAS, investments in quality early care and education strengthen families, support local businesses, and contribute to thriving communities and a strong economy; and

WHEREAS, First Things First, the Arizona Association for the Education of Young Children, Southern Arizona Association for the Education of Young Children, and other community partners, in conjunction with the National Association for the Education of Young Children, are celebrating the 55th anniversary of the Week of the Young Child™; and

WHEREAS, these organizations are working to expand equitable early childhood opportunities and ensure a strong start for children in Jerome and surrounding areas; and

WHEREAS, public policies and community support that strengthen early care and education help Arizona’s youngest learners, families, and communities thrive

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor Christina “Alex” Barber, do hereby proclaim **April 11–17, 2026, as the Week of the Young Child in Jerome Arizona**, and encourage all residents to recognize the importance of early childhood and support the programs and professionals who help young children learn, grow, and succeed.



Christina "Alex" Barber

Christina “Alex” R. Barber, Mayor