

Lia Graham

Public Comment



From: Laura Robinson <Laura@seiulocal620.org>
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Good Morning,

Please find attached the public comment submitted by SEIU staff and membership regarding the proposed layoffs in the upcoming budget cycle.

Thank you,

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April 10, 2026

Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors:

We are at a moment when the County's most vulnerable residents need you the most, and yet the proposal before you anticipates hundreds of layoffs for our social safety-net programs. These are the people who keep our clinics open, who ensure children and seniors receive essential services, who maintain public pharmacies, who support behavioral health clients, and who keep our justice system functioning safely.

To consider eliminating these positions in the middle of a community-wide crisis is not just shortsighted, it is dangerous. The need for public health, social safety-net services, and behavioral health support has never been higher. Cutting the very workforce that delivers these services will have immediate and devastating consequences for the people who rely on them every day.

If public pharmacies and clinics close, thousands of residents will lose access to medication, treatment, and preventive care. These are individuals who cannot simply "go somewhere else." The ripple effect will be felt across emergency rooms, shelters, schools, and neighborhoods. The cost of that disruption, human and financial, will far exceed any short-term savings.

The County does have options. You have the ability to divert one-time funds to stabilize operations during this temporary fiscal crisis. You have the ability to prioritize essential services and protect the workforce that delivers them. And you have the ability to choose solutions that do not push the burden of this deficit onto the lowest-paid employees and the most vulnerable residents.

I also want to formally introduce and reference the separate written public comment submitted by SEIU Local 620 on behalf of our membership. In their own words, they describe the critical nature of their work, the direct impact their jobs have on community well-being, and the profound hardship their families would face if they were laid off. Their voices deserve to be heard and taken seriously in this process.

This is not a permanent crisis. But the decisions you make now will have permanent consequences for the people who depend on these services and for the workers who provide them. I urge the Board to use every available tool to prevent layoffs, protect essential services, and keep our community whole.

Thank you for your consideration.

Laura Robinson
SEIU Local 620
Executive Director
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Voices of the Workforce: SEIU Local 620 Members on the Impact of Proposed Layoffs

Dear Supervisors,

Your choices reach people who depend on us for care they can understand and afford. In the Public Health Pharmacy, we see every day how much our work matters to families who have nowhere else to go for medication, guidance, and support in their own language. When services are taken away, the people who feel it first are the ones already struggling to stay healthy and stable. I've spent almost 22 years serving this county, and I've seen how much trust our patients place in us. Closing two pharmacies would make it harder for them to get what they need, and it would force me to travel even farther from Ventura to Lompoc at a time when gas and living costs are already a strain.

At home, I'm supporting my daughter as she goes through college and helping with my grandson, who has special needs. We are doing everything we can to stay afloat, and the added burden of a longer commute would hit us hard. I'm asking you to remember that the work we do is essential to the health of this community, and the decisions you make carry weight for the people we serve and for the staff who have given years of their lives to this county.

Public Health – Pharmacy
Pharmacy Technician
21 years, 8 months of service

Supervisors,

Your choices reach far beyond policy, they reach into the daily lives of the people who keep this county running. I'm asking you to see the weight of that. In my job, every record, every court date, every release, every phone call with a worried family member matters. When the system runs well, people are treated fairly and the community stays safer. When it doesn't, the consequences fall on real families, including mine.

I work hard to keep the justice system steady, even when my own home life is stretched thin. I'm a single parent supporting six children, plus two foster children who need multiple therapy sessions each week. My daughter is also in treatment for serious health needs. I'm doing everything I can to stay strong for them while still giving this county my best. I'm asking you to understand that the stability of workers like me depends on the stability you provide. Your decisions affect whether we can keep serving the public with the care and accuracy they deserve.

Custody Records
AOP II
3 years

Dear Supervisors,

In our pharmacy, we make it possible for patients to afford their prescriptions through free programs, assistance options, and pricing that keeps them from having to choose between medication, food, or rent. Many of our patients rely on the bus, and without us, they would spend hours traveling back and forth just to be told their prescription isn't ready or is too expensive. When we help them get their medication right away and at a price they can manage, they stay on track with their care and avoid getting worse. That is the kind of support our community counts on every day.

I show up because I care about the people who walk through our doors, and I've watched them get better because we take the time to help them. Our patients return year after year because they trust us to look out for them, not profit from them. My work also supports my own household, where I care for a disabled friend, and any major change in my work location would be a real hardship due to my anxiety with driving. I'm asking you to keep in mind how much stability matters—for the people we serve and for the staff who make this work possible.

PHD Pharmacy
Pharmacy Technician
23 years of service

Santa Barbara County Supervisors,

Young people in this county are facing serious mental and behavioral health challenges. Many of them are involved with child welfare, and without steady care and coordination, they fall through the cracks. I'm asking you to see how essential this work is and how much the community depends on the services we provide. When budgets are cut, it isn't just programs that disappear — it's support that families count on to get through some of the hardest moments of their lives.

I've lived in Santa Barbara for nearly three decades, and I've built my life around serving this community. My household is doing everything we can to stay afloat, even while carrying medical debt, student loans, and the rising cost of living. I want to keep doing this work, but it's becoming harder to stay in the place I've committed my entire adult life to. I need you to understand that the choices you make will decide whether people like me — people who care for the county's most vulnerable youth — can continue to live and work here.

Behavioral Wellness
Practitioner II (Clinician – LMFT)
6.5 years of service

County Supervisors,

I work with people who cannot care for themselves because of a neurocognitive disorder, a traumatic brain injury, or developmental delays. Many are being hurt or ignored by the very people who should protect them. When you make decisions about staffing, pay, and resources, you are deciding whether we can keep these people safe.

My family feels the strain too. My wife and I both work for the County, and like many families here, we are watching the cost of gas, food, insurance, and basic supplies climb faster than our paychecks.

I want you to know that the work we do matters to this community, and we need your support to keep doing it well. The Union has helped make health insurance more reasonable, and that has made a real difference for families like mine. But the pressure on workers is growing, and it affects the care we can give the people who depend on us. Your role is important, and your choices carry weight for every household behind the workers who show up for this county every day.

TTC

Supervisor

15 years

Supervisors,

The County's choices affect families like mine, and the people who walk through our doors every day. I work with programs that help folks get food, health coverage, work support, and a safe place to live. When resources fall short or decisions are delayed, the strain lands on the community and on the workers who keep these services moving. I show up every day because people count on us, and I need you to see how much that matters.

At home, I'm the only one bringing in income for my husband and our 7-year-old daughter. I'm proud of the work I do, but the pressure is real, and it's getting harder to carry. I'm asking you to stand with us so we can keep standing with the people of Santa Barbara County.

Social Services

AOP, Sr.

20 Years

Supervisors,

Your decisions reach the people we work with every day, including those who are trying to rebuild their lives. In my role, I guide incarcerated individuals through programs that give them a chance to return to the community with better tools and fewer barriers. I see the effort it takes for someone to step away from gang life, remove tattoos that tie them to their past, and learn how to live differently. When support for our work is uncertain, the people who depend on these programs feel it first. I'm asking you to keep in mind how much these services matter to families across the county.

At home, I'm supporting my spouse and child while managing the challenges that come with two adults in the household living with diabetes. I show up to serve this county because I believe in what we do, and I need to know that the county believes in us too.

Sheriff's Office – Inmate Programs

AOP II

3.5 years of service

Dear Santa Barbara County Supervisors,

In my job, we support the public by handling important safety records and keeping things running so residents get the help they need. If cuts move forward, losing two AOPs would push our workload past what's reasonable and hurt the service the community expects from us. Tasks will slow down, morale will fall, and the people we serve will feel it. The staff who get reassigned will face long drives to Santa Barbara just to stay employed, adding higher gas costs and extra childcare time that many families can't absorb.

At home, it's my husband, my daughter, and me. We both work to support our child, and like many families here, we're already stretched. I'm asking you to see the human side of these decisions and understand how much they matter to the people doing the work and to the community that depends on us.

Sheriff's Office

AOP Sr.

8 years, 6 months of service

County Supervisors,

I work with clients who are trying hard to stay stable, keep their jobs, and live with more independence. Many of them are working full or part time in our community, contributing to the local economy. When we support them, they stay on their feet. When we don't, their health declines and they often end up needing help from law enforcement or emergency rooms, which costs the county far more. I take pride in caring for people who are vulnerable and trying their best. They deserve steady support, and so do the workers who show up for them.

At home, I live with my spouse, and like many county employees, we face financial strain. I'm committed to this work, but commitment alone can't carry the system. Your decisions influence whether we can continue to provide the care that keeps our community stronger and safer.

BWELL Outpatient Clinic

Psychiatric RN II

2.5 years of service

Dear Supervisors,

I meet people who are stressed, confused, or unsure where to turn. I help them check in, find the right services, and get the care they need without unnecessary delays. When support at the front desk is stretched thin, patients wait longer, mistakes happen more easily, and trust in our services can slip. My work is one small part of a much bigger system, but it matters to the people who walk

through our doors. I'm asking you to keep in mind how much stability in our jobs affects the community we serve.

At home, my family depends on my income to stay afloat in a county where the cost of living is already hard to manage. We are a household of four, plus our pets, and any cut to wages or benefits would hit us fast. I love my job, I care about the people I work with, and I want to build a long future here. I'm proud of the work I do, and I hope you'll stand with the workers who keep these services running.

Public Health

AOP II

1 year

Santa Barbara County Supervisors,

I work with people who walk in after a car crash, a crime, or another hard moment, and many are unsure about talking to us at all. I'm often the first person they meet, and I do everything I can to help them feel heard and supported. What you decide affects how well we can keep showing up for them, and for families like mine who are doing their best to stay steady through health issues, rising costs, and the pressure of caring for loved ones.

I came to the County after losing two long-term jobs in the private sector, hoping this would be a place where I could build the rest of my working life. I want you to know that the stability of this work matters not just to me, but to the people who walk through our doors looking for help. Your role is essential to keeping this community strong, and I'm asking you to keep in mind the people behind the work we do.

Sheriff's Office

Administrative Office Professional

Almost three years of service

Dear County Supervisors,

I meet the public face-to-face all day, helping them get the records and support they need. If our department loses staff or hours, it won't just strain us, it will slow down the help our community counts on. Changing our schedule from 4-10s to 5-8s would take time away from my family, and being moved to another location would raise my commute costs at a time when gas is already high. For me, that feels like losing income that I can't afford to lose.

I live with my wife and stepson, and the stability of my job matters to all of us. I'm asking you to think about the people behind these roles and how much we give to keep this county running. We want to keep serving Santa Barbara, but we need the support to do it.

Criminal Records – Sheriff

AOP II

3 years, 9 months

Supervisors,

I work face-to-face with the public, helping them get reports, vehicle releases, and answers they need so the DA can move forward with cases. I'm often the link between deputies and the community, and I do this while supporting my son on a single income. Even now, I can't afford to put him on the County's insurance, and the cost of living keeps climbing while our pay stays the same. If layoffs happen and my schedule changes, I'll be forced to pay for an extra day of childcare that I simply can't cover.

I'm asking you to see the strain that many of us are already under. The work we do keeps this county moving, and we show up because we care about the people who count on us. We need you to stand with us so we can keep doing the jobs that support this community.

Sheriff's Office

AOP II

10 years of service

Dear Santa Barbara County Supervisors,

Your choices carry weight for the people who count on us every day. I'm asking you to see how much our work matters to the safety and fairness of this county. In my job, I make sure consumers, farmers, and our environment are protected. That work only happens when the people doing it can afford to stay here. I'm raising my daughter in a place where rent keeps climbing, and the cost of simply living here gets harder to manage. It shouldn't feel like stability is slipping away from the very people who keep this county running.

I'm proud of what I do, and I want to keep serving this community. I just need the chance to stay rooted here, without worrying if my home will still be within reach next year.

Agriculture Weights and Measures

Inspector III

4 years of service

Dear Santa Barbara County Board Members,

I am writing you today to talk about the stability of the workforce that keeps our county running. In my role, I see every day how essential your decisions are to the health of our community. The work we do is not abstract, it directly affects people who are having medical issues, social challenges, and a lack of knowledge about the resources available to them. When we are supported, we are able to bridge those gaps and ensure that our most vulnerable residents receive the care and guidance they need to stay healthy and stable.

At home, like many of my coworkers, I carry the responsibility of supporting my family; my husband, my daughter, and another baby on the way. We rely on our paychecks to keep a roof over our heads, put food on the table. These are not luxuries; they are the basics that allow us to continue serving the public with focus and compassion. I urge you to remember that behind every county position is

a household depending on your choices. Your role is crucial, and the community needs you to stand firmly with the workers who uphold the services our residents rely on every day.

County Health Department

Health Service Aide

1.5 years of service

Dear Supervisors,

In my role, I support some of the most vulnerable individuals in our County. People who are often unhoused, struggling with severe mental health needs, or caught in the justice system. When our jobs are stable and supported, we can keep people out of hospitals, connect them to care, and give them a chance to move forward. When we're stretched thin, the community feels it fast.

At home, I carry most of the income for my family. We're raising a young daughter while living in a crowded space with my elderly parents because we can't afford housing in Santa Barbara. It's stressful, and my younger brother's struggles with alcoholism adds another layer. I stay involved in community groups because I believe in fighting for better conditions, but the truth is that limited time and energy make it hard. I'm asking you to see the people behind these jobs and understand how much your decisions matter to families like mine.

Behavioral Wellness

Administrative Office Professional I

2.5 years with the County (1.5 as a regular employee)

Dear County Supervisors,

When support staff loses stability, the community loses stability. The work I do may happen behind the scenes, but it keeps families connected to help, keeps records accurate, and keeps people from getting lost in a system they already find hard to navigate.

My own home depends on steady income to cover basic needs like housing, food, and utilities. Without stable work, my situation becomes uncertain fast. I'm not alone in this. Many of us are carrying the stress of trying to stay afloat while still giving our best to the county. I'm asking you to remember that the people doing this work are also trying to keep their own households standing. When we have security, we can give the community the support it deserves.

Social Services

Administrative Office Professional

18 Years

Dear Santa Barbara County Supervisors,

My job is to make sure properties are assessed fairly so our schools and county services have the funding they depend on. When wages fall behind the cost-of-living year after year, it becomes harder for workers like me to stay steady while still giving our best to the community. I'm asking you

to keep in mind that the stability of the county workforce is tied to the stability of the services our residents count on.

At home, I support my two children and help support my partner and her two children. Like many families, we stretch every dollar as far as it can go. I'm committed to serving this county, but I need to know that the county is committed to the people who keep it running.

Assessor's Office

Assessment Supervisor

13 years of service

Supervisors,

I'm hoping you see what is happening to our clinic and understand what it means for the people who have nowhere else to go. We care for people who would otherwise be shut out of health care in Santa Barbara. We help keep hospitals from being overwhelmed, and we give people a chance to stay healthy before their conditions turn into emergencies. When services close and staff are let go, the people who suffer are the ones who already have the least. I've spent ten years caring for these patients, and it breaks my heart to think about where they will turn now.

At home, I am 62 and still working to support my household and my aging father. My husband is 65, and even though we hoped to retire soon, the economy has made that impossible. We will both need to work for many more years. I'm proud of the work I do, but I'm scared of losing the chance to keep helping the people who depend on us. I hope you will take this seriously and stand with us so we can continue serving this community.

Santa Barbara Health

Staff Registered Nurse

10 years of service

Dear Supervisors,

The work we do in public health is important. It affects funding for services, the safety of our neighborhoods, and the ability of providers to understand what is happening in our county. The data I analyze helps bring in grants that support programs families depend on. I also help track and stop the spread of disease, which protects everyone who lives here. When staffing is cut on the front lines, the community feels it first.

At the same time, it's hard to understand why management has grown while the number of staff doing the day-to-day work has gone down. Some supervisors oversee only a couple of people, and combining those roles could save jobs that directly serve the public. My own household is feeling the strain as my partner's hours are reduced due to federal cuts, and I know many others are in similar situations. I'm asking you to look closely at where resources are going and protect the workers who keep this county safe and supported.

**Public Health Department
Epidemiologist/Biostatistician
16 years of service**

To the Santa Barbara County Supervisors,

When staffing is thin and resources fall short, it isn't just numbers on a page. It's real people waiting longer, worrying more, and hoping we can keep up. We want to keep serving this community with pride, but we need your support to do it.

I've given nearly two decades of my life to this work, and I'm not alone. Many of us stay because we believe in what we do. Please remember that your decisions reach far beyond the walls of your offices. They touch every clinic, every hallway, every person who walks through our doors looking for help.

**Laboratory
Phlebotomist
19 years**

Dear Santa Barbara County Supervisors,

My work helps parents and workers in our county get back on their feet by connecting them with jobs, childcare, mental health support, interview clothes, and even the gas they need to get to work. When staffing is cut, families wait longer for help, and the stress on those of us who remain grows fast. I support myself and my two kids, and the thought of being bumped or losing my job is frightening. I'm asking you to protect the staff who keep these services moving.

We cannot afford to lose the coworkers who stand beside us. Every person on our team is needed to meet the demand we see every day. Keeping us whole keeps our community steady, and it keeps families from falling through the cracks.

**Social Services
Career Employment Specialist
20 years of service**

Santa Barbara County Supervisors,

I'm asking you to see the strain that proposed cuts place on those of us who support the justice system every day. My work helps detectives and the District Attorney's Office move major cases forward: homicides, officer-involved shootings, robberies, sexual assaults, and crimes against children. These cases depend on accurate reports, timely subpoenas, and steady support behind the scenes. When our jobs are threatened, the community feels it, and so do the families who depend on us.

I'm a single mom raising two little kids on one income, already pushed out of town just to afford a small place to live. I work hard, and I'm doing everything I can to keep my family stable. Hearing about possible cuts brings stress and worry into a home that's already stretched thin. I'm asking

you to understand how important your decisions are to the people who serve this county and to the families who count on us.

Sheriff's Office

Administrative Office Professional II

7 years, 2 months

Dear County Supervisors,

When lab services are available on-site, patients get the care they need without extra costs or long trips to outside labs. Taking that away would place a real burden on many who already struggle to get by. After more than two decades serving this county, it's hard to hear talk about "trimming the fat" when the work we do keeps our clinics running and our patients supported. I stand on my own financially, and even then I'm facing a landlord trying to raise my rent beyond what's allowed. If that happens, I may not be able to keep up. Stability at work matters, not just for me, but for the people who count on us.

I've given 24 years to this county because I believe in the work and the community. I'm asking you to see the people behind these jobs and understand what your decisions mean for those of us who show up every day to keep services going.

Public Health – Lompoc Clinic

Lab Assistant – Phlebotomist

24 years of service

County Supervisors,

Every day, I'm the first stop for staff who need IT help so they can stay focused on serving families, seniors, and those who depend on us. When systems break or slow down, I'm the one making sure issues get handled fast so our teams can keep doing their work without delay. I'm asking you to see how much stability matters to those of us who support this community from the ground up.

At home, I'm raising two young kids, and even with steady work, we still live paycheck to paycheck. I'm proud of what I do for this county, but it's getting harder to keep up. I need you to understand that the choices you make affect not just our jobs, but our families and the people we serve.

Department of Social Services

AOP Senior

8 years, 8 months

Dear Supervisors,

In the pharmacy, our patients depend on us because many cannot drive, and they come straight to us after their appointments. We help people who pay cash get the medication they need through patient assistance, and we support those without housing by making sure they receive their

medication at no cost. If this job is taken away, it isn't just my life that changes — it affects the people who walk through our doors because they have nowhere else to go.

At home, I support my husband, my 19-year-old daughter who we are trying to put through college, and my elderly parents. We are holding things together, but losing my job would put my entire family at risk. We cannot live on one income, and the cost of living in Santa Barbara County is already hard for so many. I'm asking you to understand that these decisions reach far beyond the workplace. They reach families like mine who are doing everything they can to stay steady.

Pharmacy Technician
11 years of service

Supervisors of Santa Barbara County,

I care for animals belonging to people who are facing some of the hardest moments of their lives— those in jail, in mental health programs, in domestic violence situations, in protective custody, or in the hospital. When we step in, we give them one less thing to worry about so they can focus on getting help. When jobs like mine are cut, the harm spreads fast. People go without support, hunger grows, crime rises, and more people fall into homelessness and poverty. These are not distant problems. They land right here in our county.

I live alone and support my family back home, many of whom are seniors on disability or living on government aid because there is no work where they are. Losing income would hit them as much as it hits me. I'm asking you to see the people behind these jobs and understand how much the community depends on the services we provide.

Animal Services
Animal Welfare Specialist
2.5 years

Supervisors,

I handle the utility bills for the entire Sheriff's Department, and while the task may seem small, it keeps essential services functioning without interruption. When decisions make it harder for us to do our jobs or support our families, the strain doesn't stay at work — it follows us home. I'm asking you to remember that the stability of this community depends on the stability of the people who serve it.

I've given over a decade of my life to this county, and I do it while raising my nine-year-old daughter on my own. I'm proud of my work, but I need to know that the people leading this county see the weight we carry and the effort it takes to keep things moving. Your job matters, and so does ours.

Sheriff's Department
Financial Office Professional II
12 years of service

County of Santa Barbara Supervisors,

I see the need up close, and I do my part by making sure families get timely and accurate services, whether I'm processing applications, answering questions, or helping someone face-to-face who doesn't know where else to turn. My work gives people access to food, housing support, and stability, and I take that responsibility seriously because the community depends on us being steady and reliable.

I am also carrying full responsibility of supporting my wife and young daughter in a place where the cost of living is high. As an immigrant, earning this job was a major step for my family, and keeping it means everything to us. I work hard because I want to keep serving this county and because my family's security depends on it. I'm asking you to keep in mind that the choices you make affect not just the public, but the workers who show up every day to keep these services running.

Social Services

AOP II

2 Years

Hello County Supervisors,

I'm asking you to see how much your decisions affect workers like me and the families who count on us. My job keeps the jail supplied with the basic items needed every day, and without that support the whole system slows down. I show up because the community depends on it, and I'm proud to do my part.

At home, my husband and I are raising our son and my stepson. We just bought a house, and I had to pull from my 401K to make it possible. Now we've learned we owe \$34,000 in taxes. This is the moment when steady work matters most. I'm scared about how we'll manage this debt, and even more scared at the thought of losing my job. I need you to understand what that would mean for us.

Sheriff's Office

Storekeeper

1 year of service

Supervisors,

I support our clinical teams so they can give patients the care they deserve, and I help bring in the funding that keeps these services going. At home, my wife and I are raising two young children in Carpinteria, and we both work in public service. The stress of not knowing what will happen to our jobs follows us home, and it affects how present we can be for our kids. If either of us were to lose our job, we would have to think hard about whether we could stay in this county.

Many of us worked for years to build the skills that make these programs strong. We chose this work because we care about people who have the least. Cutting positions now will push out employees who know this work well and care about it. Once they're gone, it will be hard for the county to keep the same level of service that our community depends on.

Health Department
Performance Improvement Coordinator
2 Years of Service

Dear County Supervisors,

When we're supported, we can give the community the care, protection, and guidance they expect from us. When we're not, the strain shows in the services people depend on.

In my role, I see the impact up close. We provide help, resources, and enforcement that keep both animals and residents safe. It's steady, demanding work, and it matters. I'm urging you to keep in mind how important your role is in making sure we can continue to serve the public with the attention and commitment they deserve.

Public Health Department
Animal Control Officer I
3.5 years of service

Supervisors,

I see how much people depend on the services we provide. I'm asking you to remember that the people doing this work are carrying heavy loads at home while still giving everything they have on the job. Many of us are supporting families, facing hardships, and trying to stay afloat while continuing to serve with commitment and heart.

We are not asking for anything unreasonable. We are asking to be seen, to be valued, and to have the support we need to keep doing the work that holds this county together. Please take our situations seriously. We are all struggling, and your decisions matter to the people behind these jobs and the families who depend on us.

Public Health Dept
Medical Assistant
20 years of service

To the members of the Board of Supervisors,

I'm writing because the work we do in the County pharmacy matters. Many of our patients can only afford their medications because of the Patient Assistance program we run. They come to us because they trust us, and because we treat them with care and respect. Closing the Santa Barbara pharmacy would take away a lifeline for people who already struggle to get by, and it would leave many families without the support they count on.

At home, I'm supporting my wife, who recently retired and is healing from open-heart surgery, and our disabled daughter. Like many County workers, I show up every day because I believe in serving this community. I'm asking you to remember how important your decisions are to the people who live here and to the workers who keep these services going.

Pharmacy
Pharmacy Technician
11 years of service

To the County Board of Supervisors,

We help uninsured and under-insured patients get the medications they need at prices they can manage. Many of them face financial and language barriers, and without us they would have nowhere to turn for help or guidance. I see the strain in their lives, and I also feel it in my own as I support my elderly parents, raise two young children, and help my daughter through college. I'm asking you to remember that the work we do isn't optional for the community. It keeps people healthy, stable, and able to care for their families.

I chose this career because I grew up here and once relied on these same services myself. I know what it means when a pharmacy like ours stays open, and I know what it means when it doesn't. Please consider how essential this work is to the people who live here, work here, and trust us to stand with them.

Public Health
Pharmacist
22 years

Dear Board of Supervisors,

People who are hanging on by a thread, and I see that every day in the work I do. I respond to people in crisis from substance use, mental health struggles, dementia, youth emergencies, and calls for support. These are folks who depend on public health and social services for food, shelter, clothing, medical and psychiatric care, child care, and treatment. When those services fall short, other departments already stretched thin are left trying to hold things together. I'm asking you to keep in mind that the community depends on you to protect the services that keep people safe and stable.

At home, I carry the weight of supporting my daughter in college, my mother, and an elderly friend who relies on me every day. I work two jobs just to keep my household functioning. I'm committed to this county and the people we serve, but I need you to understand how much your decisions matter to the workers who keep these services going and to the residents who depend on them.

Behavioral Wellness
Psychiatric Technician II – Mobile Crisis
26 years of service

I'm asking you to remember that when you decide what resources we get, you're deciding whether families like mine can stay steady. My work keeps every home and business safe by making sure all sewer flow is collected and sent to the treatment plant. It's not glamorous, but it's essential, and it only works when the people doing it can stay afloat themselves.

At home, we're a household of five. My wife and I support our two kids and my mom, who has dementia and needs full-time care. We do everything we can, but there's never enough money to get through the month without stress. We rely on our kids to help care for my mom because we can't afford outside help. I'm asking you to see the people behind these jobs and understand how much your support matters to the community you serve.

Laguna County Sanitation District
Maintenance Lead – Sewer Collections
15+ years of service

Dear Santa Barbara Supervisors,

Your choices carry weight for the people who keep this county running. I'm asking you to see how close many of us are to losing the stability we work hard for. I live alone with my dog, and even with full-time work, the cost of living in Santa Barbara County leaves me with very few options. If anything were to threaten my job, I would have no choice but to work multiple jobs or leave the state. That's the reality many of us face, and it's why your role matters so much to the community you serve.

We show up every day because we care about the work we do. All we ask is that you understand how much your decisions affect the people behind these services. We're not asking for anything unreasonable — just the chance to stay in the place we support and call home.

General Services
Mail Center Worker

Santa Barbara County Supervisors,

I'm asking you to see how much our work matters and how much we give to keep this county healthy. In my job, I help people feel better, regain confidence, and get back to their lives. I do this because I care about my community, and I show up even when the long commute and the stress at home make it hard. I'm the main provider for my family, supporting my husband who can no longer work the way he used to, my daughter, and my grandbaby. I stay committed because I love what I do, but the pay for Medical Assistants does not match the responsibility we carry or the cost of living we face.

I want you to hear that we are doing everything we can for the people of Santa Barbara County, and we need you to stand with us. Fair pay is not just about a paycheck — it's about being able to keep serving the community without breaking under the pressure. We show up for the county, and we need the county to show up for us.

SB Public Health Clinic
Medical Assistant
10 years of service

Supervisors,

Members of the Board of Supervisors, I'm asking you to remember how much your decisions affect the lives of the people who work for this county and the community we serve. My work in Public Health helps protect Santa Barbara County every day, and the stability of this job is what keeps my household going. I show up because the community depends on us, and in return, we depend on you to make choices that keep workers supported and able to stay in the jobs that keep this county safe.

At home, my family relies on my income, especially now as my daughter prepares for college. Every expense matters, and the security of this job is what allows us to plan for her future. I'm asking you to keep in mind that behind every county position is a family like mine trying to move forward with dignity and hope.

Public Health – Disease Control and Prevention

Lab Assistant

8 years of service

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors,

Your decisions matter to the people who live here. Nutrition Services and WIC are often the only support families have when they're trying to keep their children healthy, fed, and cared for. We provide food benefits, nutrition education, and breastfeeding support that help parents give their kids a strong start. We are fully grant-funded, and when funding is cut or caseloads drop, families lose services and staff lose jobs. That loss hits the community immediately.

My own family is at risk too. I support a husband and two children, and if my job is cut, we would lose our home within a month or two. We have no savings to fall back on. County Health is the safety net for people who have nowhere else to go. We serve those without insurance, those who are struggling, and those who depend on us to stay healthy. We need funding restored and strengthened, including bringing OB services back to Santa Maria. County Health already has the tools, the staff, and the trust of the community to make these services work.

County Health

Nutrition Site Supervisor / Breastfeeding Coordinator

28 years of service

Santa Barbara County Supervisors,

The work you do carries real weight in the lives of the people who keep this county running. I've spent more than three decades serving Santa Barbara County, and I've seen firsthand how much our community depends on the work we do. My role supporting victims is not just a job — it's a lifeline for people in crisis, and the community feels it every day. But the rising cost of living has pushed many of us to the edge. I rent an apartment and support my son and two granddaughters on a single income, and every month gets harder. Rent, utilities, groceries — everything has gone up while our pay has not kept pace. The stress of trying to hold a household together under these

conditions takes a toll, and many of us are carrying that weight quietly while still showing up for the people we serve.

After giving over 30 years to this county, I believe I've earned fair compensation and so have all the other workers who keep this place moving. Layoffs should never be on the table. Fewer workers will only increase the strain on those who remain, and the community will feel that loss. We need your support now more than ever, because the work we do matters, and the people doing it deserve to live with stability and dignity.

District Attorney's Office
Victim Advocate II
Over 30 years

Supervisors,

The work we do in our clinic matters very much to the people of Santa Barbara County. Every day, we care for patients who have nowhere else to go. People without insurance, without transportation, and families who trust us because we speak their language and treat them with dignity. Even though we are a small clinic, we serve everyone from newborns to older adults, including prenatal care. Our community depends on us, and we show up for them because we know how much they need us.

I'm asking you to understand how much we depend on our jobs too. I'm a single mother raising three children in a home we can barely afford, sharing rooms because rent is so high. Losing a job with no warning is crushing for any family. The way these layoffs are happening feels harsh and discouraging. We need stability to keep caring for the people who rely on us. Your decisions affect real families, including mine, and the community we all serve.

Carpinteria Health Care Center
Medical Assistant
6 years of service

Dear Supervisors,

Our community depends on the work we do every single day, and I need you to understand how much your decisions affect the people who walk through our doors. I care for children, elders, women, families without stable housing, and anyone who needs help managing long-term health problems. I prepare kids for healthy growth, support pregnant women through every stage, and stand with people facing abuse, unexpected pregnancies, or major changes in their health. Without medical assistants, our doctors cannot meet the needs of this community. We are the medical home for Carpinteria, and we stay steady through sickness, disasters, and hard times because people count on us.

My household faces the same rising costs as many others, and my pay no longer keeps up. Yet every day I show up because this clinic is the only place between Ventura and Santa Barbara where anyone can get care, no matter their situation. If we were not here, people would end up in urgent

care or the ER, or worse, go without help. Your choices matter to the health and safety of this county, and I need you to see the weight of that.

Santa Barbara County Public Health – Carpinteria Health Care Center

Medical Assistant

20 years of service

Dear Board of Supervisors,

My work in the pharmacy supports the health of our community every single day by helping people manage their medications, supporting immunizations, and making sure patients get the care they need. I show up because I care about the people who walk through our doors, and I've built my life around serving this county. My family depends on the stability of this job — my husband, our two teenagers in college, and my mom who lives with us. We recently became homeowners, and any loss of income could put our home and my kids' education at risk.

I've spent decades serving the public, from years in retail pharmacy to years in food service before joining the county. I love my work and want to retire here, but I need to know that the county values the people who keep these services running. Your choices affect real families like mine, and I'm asking you to keep that in mind as you move forward.

Pharmacy Department

Pharmacy Technician

8 years of service

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I want to speak plainly about the work I do and why it matters to the people of Santa Barbara County. Every day in our pharmacy, we help uninsured patients get the medications they need at prices they can manage. Some of these medicines, like insulin, are far beyond what most families can afford. When someone comes in stressed and unsure how they'll get through the month, we step in and make sure they don't go without care. This isn't just a task on a list. It's a lifeline for people who have nowhere else to turn.

My job also supports my own household. My husband and I both work to keep up with our mortgage and basic expenses, and losing my job would put us in a situation we could not carry. I love what I do, and it means a lot to know we are helping people who are struggling. I'm asking you to remember how important this work is to the community and to the families who depend on us, including my own.

PHD Lompoc Pharmacy

Pharmacy Technician

5 years Extra Help + 11 years Full Time

Members of the Board,

In my work, I see every day how many community members rely on us for medication they cannot get anywhere else. These are neighbors who have no insurance and no other way to stay healthy. If our pharmacy closes, they will lose access to medication that keeps them alive. I'm also thinking about my own family, because I support my husband and help care for my 91-year-old mother. Losing my job would hit our home hard and take a toll on our wellbeing.

I've given 25 years to this county because I believe in serving people who need us. I'm asking you to protect the services that protect them. Your choices carry weight, and the community is counting on you to stand with us.

Public Health Pharmacy
Pharmacy Technician
25 years of service

Dear Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors,

We help uninsured people everyday at the pharmacy and under-insured patients get the medications they need to stay healthy. Many of them are struggling with low income, language barriers, and the stress of trying to manage serious health conditions. Without the services we provide, many of our neighbors would go without the medicines their doctors say they need. I see the worry in their faces, and I see the relief when we're able to help them. That is why the work we do is not optional for this community.

At home, I'm caring for my elderly parents, supporting my children, and helping my daughter through college. I do this while giving my full commitment to the job I chose because I grew up here and know firsthand how important these services are. I'm asking you to protect the programs that keep people safe, supported, and able to care for their families. Your choices carry weight for all of us who serve and for the people who depend on us.

Public Health
Pharmacist
22 years

Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors,

I am writing because the work we do in Public Health is essential to the people of Santa Barbara County, especially those who cannot access care on their own. Every day, I support patients who do not have the mental or physical ability to get to a lab draw station. These are some of the most disadvantaged people in our community, and they rely on us to remove barriers so they can stay healthy. My work in phlebotomy and as a lab assistant helps our microbiologists move faster and ensures that our patients get the care they deserve. When decisions are made that overlook the realities of these patients, it harms the very people who trust the County to protect them.

At home, my husband and I depend on my income, and with an injury, finding another job would be extremely difficult. I also want to express a concern: if the County accepts funding meant to support underserved patients, then we must honor the purpose of that funding. It is not fair—or possibly even legal—to treat these patients as if they have the same resources as everyone else while high-level salaries continue to rise. This is not just my story; it is the story of the people we serve. I hope you will remember how crucial your decisions are to their well-being.

Public Health Dept.

Lab Assistant

Over 10 years of service

Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors,

I'm writing because the work we do for Santa Barbara County is not just paperwork or process—it's the safety net that keeps people alive. Every day, I sit across from community members who are homeless, disabled, or facing emergencies that no family should have to face alone. When someone has no food, no shelter, or no way to care for their children, we are the ones who step in. If you move forward with layoffs, these families will wait longer for help they cannot afford to wait for. That delay isn't just an inconvenience. It's the difference between stability and crisis.

I've served this county for 17 years, and I've done it with pride because I believe in the people who live here. But I'm also a single mother raising two children while caring for my widowed, disabled mother. I am the only income in my home. Losing my job would put my own family at risk, just like the families I help every day. I'm asking you to protect the services that keep this county strong and to protect the workers who make those services possible. We are not numbers on a budget line—we are people doing essential work for a community that depends on us.

Department of Social Services

Clerical – Admin Office Professional

17 years of service

Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors,

I'm writing because the decisions you make in the coming months will change the future of our community in very real ways. My work in Public Health puts me face-to-face with the people who rely on the County every day. I help make sure their health needs are met, their records are ready, and urgent situations are handled quickly so our doctors can focus on care. I see the impact of your choices on the ground, and I need you to understand how much stability in our workforce matters to the public we serve.

At home, I am the only financial provider for my two children. Like many County employees, I am doing everything I can to keep my family secure while continuing to show up for this community. Cutting staff may feel like the fastest solution, but it causes deep harm to families and to the services people depend on. There are other options—methodical furloughs, voluntary reduced

schedules, merging or reducing high-level executive positions, and taking a hard look at the cost of ongoing legal fees tied to top-paid leadership. These choices could save far more than cutting regular staff, yet they are not being discussed. I'm asking you to look at the full picture and remember that the people doing the day-to-day work are the backbone of this County.

Public Health Department

AOP II

5 Years of Serv

Santa Barbar County Supervisors,

I am writing because the work I do matters deeply to the people of Santa Barbara County, and the decisions you make directly shape our ability to keep serving them. In Public Health at the Lompoc Pediatrics Clinic, I care for underserved families who rely on us for basic medical support. I show up every day not just as an RN, but as someone who has spent 18 years helping this community stay healthy and safe. I'm asking you to remember that the choices you make affect real people—your employees and the residents who depend on us.

At home, it's just my son and me. As a single mother living paycheck to paycheck with a mortgage, I carry the weight of keeping our lives stable. If I were to lose my job, I would have to sell my home and completely change the life I've worked so hard to build. I hope you understand how crucial your role is in protecting the workers who keep this county running.

Public Health – Lompoc Pediatrics

RN

18 years of service

Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors,

I'm writing because the work we do in this county depends on your leadership, and our community feels the impact of every decision you make. In Public Health, we see people every day who rely on us for basic care and support. These are community members who often have nowhere else to turn, and the choices made at the county level shape what we can offer them. Your role is not just administrative — it affects real people, families, and neighborhoods across Santa Barbara County. I hope you'll keep in mind how much your support matters to those of us on the front lines and to the residents who depend on us.

Thank you for taking the time to hear from those who serve this community every day.

Public Health Department

Medical Assistant (MA)

40 Years of Service

To the Board of Supervisors,

The work we do in Public Health is not just a job—it is a lifeline for the people of Santa Barbara County. Our clinic has earned the trust of this community over many years, and our patients

continue to choose us because they know they will be treated with dignity, respect, and real compassion. Many of the other clinics in town do not have the same reputation, and our patients deserve better than being pushed toward care that is not equitable or dependable. We serve a community that may not be wealthy, but they deserve the same quality of healthcare as anyone else, and we are proud to be the ones who provide it.

My household depends on my job. I am a mom of three, and my husband was recently forced into early retirement after 36 years of federal service. Losing my position would mean losing our livelihood at a time when we are trying to support our children's future. Our clinic is as essential as police and fire—we keep people well, and that is a basic need. I ask you to understand how crucial our work is and how deeply it affects the health and stability of the entire county.

Public Health
Registered Nurse
23 Years of Service

Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My job directly supports our community by helping families access the supplemental foods they rely on. After nearly two decades with the County, I've seen how much stability and care matter, and how your decisions affect the people who walk through our doors. Your role is crucial, and I hope you continue to remember the real families behind every policy and budget choice.

At home, I support my 22-year-old daughter, and while my own hardships may be smaller than others, the cost of living and my mortgage still weigh heavily. I'm grateful for the support of our union and for the people who stand with us. I simply ask that you stand with us too, and recognize the value of the work we do for the community we all share.

PHD WIC
Health Educator Assistant Sr.
19 years of service

Members of the Board of Supervisors,

The work we do in Disease Control is not just a job—it is a lifeline for the people of Santa Barbara County. Every day we watch for early signs of outbreaks, respond to health threats, and help our community understand how to stay safe. In the North County, we serve a large and diverse population, including many Indigenous families who speak Mixtec and other Indigenous languages. Reaching them takes patience, trust, and real human connection. Our work keeps disease from spreading, protects workplaces, and helps families stay healthy. When we lose staff, the community loses protection. When we are pushed to the edge, the people we serve feel it first.

I am coming to you not only as an employee, but as a single mother carrying the full responsibility of a daughter with disabilities. Losing my job would not just affect me—it would shake the foundation of my household. Life is already a struggle, and the fear of losing stability is overwhelming. I need

you to understand that the decisions you make directly affect real families like mine. Your choices matter, and the community is counting on you to protect the people who protect them.

PUBLIC HEALTH – Disease Control

HEALTH EDUC ASSOCIATE

10 years of service

Members of the Board of Supervisors,

I'm speaking to you as someone who shows up every day to support some of the most vulnerable families in Santa Barbara County. The work we do is not abstract — it keeps people healthy, stable, and connected to care they cannot get anywhere else. I'm raising two teenagers on my own, and like many families here, I'm struggling to keep up as the cost of living climbs while wages stay the same. I'm deeply worried about what will happen to our patients if services are cut. When specialty care like OB, Urology, Nephrology, GI, and Neuro disappears, there is no backup plan. Once people lose CenCal, they will have nowhere to go.

We cannot keep removing the staff who provide direct care while adding more leadership roles that don't support clinic operations. Your decisions shape the health and stability of this entire county. Our community needs you to protect the services that keep families safe and to make choices that reflect the real needs of the people doing the work on the ground.

County Health Department

Public Health Nurse

11 years of service

Members of the Board of Supervisors,

I want you to hear directly from someone who has spent decades serving this county. My work connects families to the services they depend on—help with forms, parenting support, and in-home assistance that keeps them stable and safe. Every day I stand beside prenatal women, teens, and postpartum clients who rely on us not just for guidance, but for hope. When systems fall short, they feel it immediately. Your decisions shape whether these families get the support they need or fall through the cracks.

I've carried this work for many years, and I see the stress our community faces, especially around immigration and basic access to care. I'm asking you to remember how crucial your role is. The choices you make affect households, many people count on this county to show up for them.

MCAH

Senior Health Educator Assistant

31 years of service

In WIC, we meet with parents of very young children and make sure they can buy the food they need every month. Without enough staff, those benefits don't get loaded, and kids go without. I also work in our health centers, helping patients manage diabetes and other conditions, and supporting

people during pregnancy and after birth. When we don't have the staff or time to do this work, the strain lands on families who already have limited support.

I already work long days because the need is constant. If cuts happen, the workload won't shrink. It will grow, and many of us worry about burning out. The community counts on us, and we need you to understand how much is at stake for the people we serve.

County Health

Registered Dietitian

15 years

Dear County Supervisors,

My team is the first point of contact for the public, attorneys, the Court, the DA, the Public Defender, victims, and clients. We make sure every hearing is documented correctly and every file is entered with care, because one mistake can cause serious problems for someone's case. We do this work while trying to keep up with rising rent, food, gas, and basic living costs that climb every year. It's getting harder to make a budget stretch, even after decades of service.

I'm asking you to look at where cuts or layoffs would do the least harm. One or two positions at the highest tier equal several jobs at ours, and losing people at this level would hit the work the community depends on. We're not asking for anything unreasonable — just for you to see the strain and understand that keeping experienced staff in place protects the public and keeps the system running the way it should.

Probation

AOP Sr

20+ years

Santa Barbara County Supervisors,

I help individuals with mental health disorders who are also facing legal trouble, helping them stay engaged in treatment so they have a real chance to avoid conviction after two years of steady progress. This isn't abstract. These are people who want stability, safety, and a chance to move forward. When decisions are made that affect staffing, funding, or the programs we rely on, it directly affects whether these individuals get that chance.

I'm asking you to keep in mind that the choices you make reach far beyond the walls of any office. They touch the lives of people who depend on us to show up, stay steady, and keep services strong. I've committed more than two decades to this work, and I see every day how important it is that we have the support needed to continue helping people turn their lives around.

Behavioral Wellness

Practitioner II

21 years

Supervisors,

I support the workers who stand with families in crisis, and when my role is threatened, the safety net we all depend on weakens. We are already stretched thin because open positions stay empty, and the strain is pushing people out on stress leave. Cutting more staff—especially in Child Welfare Services—will slow down the work that keeps children safe and connected to their families. When we have fewer hands, kids stay in foster care longer, costs rise, and the whole system becomes harder to hold together.

At home, I'm raising two young children, including one with special needs. Sudden changes to my job would hit my family hard. I'm doing everything I can to balance a demanding job with caring for a child who needs constant support. I'm asking you to understand that these decisions reach into our homes, our workplaces, and the lives of the children we serve. We cannot afford to lose more ground.

Child Welfare Services
Department Business Specialist
13 years of service

Supervisors,

In Custody Records, we work quietly but carry a heavy load. Every booking, every hold, every release, every court order we process must be exact. When we get it right, the justice system moves the way it should. When we don't, the consequences fall on the community and on the people who trust us to keep them safe. I'm asking you to see how much this work matters and how much it depends on having enough support to do it well.

I live here, I serve here, and I carry the full weight of my household on a single income in one of the most expensive counties in the state. I've worked hard to grow in this department, moving through several roles so I could better understand how each part of our system works. I'm proud of that path, and I'm proud of the service we provide. But pride alone doesn't cover the rising cost of living or the strain that comes with trying to keep up while doing work that demands accuracy, focus, and constant responsibility. I'm asking you to stand with us so we can continue to stand strong for this county.

Thank you for hearing my story and understanding that the work we do is not just a job—it's a commitment to the people we serve.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Administrative Office Professional Sr.
7 Years of Service

Dear Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to you as an employee of the Sheriff's Office, where I have served as an AOP II for the past eight years. I want to express both my respect for the difficult work you do and my concern

about how proposed scheduling changes may unintentionally affect employees like myself, as well as the community we serve.

My role directly supports the public safety system by ensuring that custody records are accurate, legal deadlines are met, and communication flows quickly and reliably between the jail, the courts, and our deputies. These behind-the-scenes responsibilities have real consequences for due process, officer safety, and the public's trust in our department. I take this work seriously because I know how much the community depends on these systems running smoothly.

Outside of work, I support my husband and also care for my mother, who is currently undergoing treatment for cancer. Her medical needs require significant time and flexibility, and my current 4/10 schedule allows me to manage her appointments on my regular day off. This arrangement minimizes disruption to station operations and ensures that public service at the front counter remains consistent.

The proposed shift to a 5/8 schedule would make it extremely difficult to maintain this balance. It would force me to miss several hours of work each pay period to meet my mother's medical needs—something I have been able to avoid under the current schedule. I worry that this change will not only strain my family but also reduce the stability and coverage our station provides to the public.

Your choices shape the lives of employees and the quality of service our community receives. I hope my perspective helps illustrate how important it is to consider the human impact behind these operational changes.

Thank you for your time, your service, and your commitment to the people of Santa Barbara County.

Sheriff's Office

AOP II

8 Years

Dear Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors,

I'm writing to share my perspective as someone who serves the public at moments when they are often scared, emotional, and unsure of what comes next. In Custody Records, we are the first point of contact for families trying to understand what happens after a loved one is arrested. We guide them through a confusing and stressful process with patience and empathy, and we ensure that the individuals in our custody are processed accurately so they can post bail or be released as early as they are legally able. The work we do directly affects families, timelines, and the community's trust in the system, which is why your decisions about staffing and support have such a profound impact on the people we serve every day.

I grew up in Santa Barbara, and my hope is to continue building a stable life for my family in the community that raised me. My wife and I recently welcomed our son, and like many families here, we're feeling the strain of rising rent and the challenges that come with a newborn. I'm proud of the

work I do and want to keep serving this county with dedication, but I also hope the Board understands how essential our roles are and how important it is that the people doing this work can afford to live in the place they serve. Thank you for your time and for the responsibility you carry on behalf of our community.

Custody Records, Sheriff's Office
Admin Office Professional
Almost 2 years of service

Dear Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors,

I am writing with sincere concern as someone who has dedicated many years to serving our community. In my role, I am often the first point of contact for individuals seeking medical care—helping them schedule appointments, navigate financial assistance, and connect with both community and state resources. The work we do is not just administrative; it is the foundation that allows our residents to access essential health services. Your decisions directly shape our ability to continue providing this care, and I hope you recognize how vital your leadership is to the wellbeing of the people we serve every day.

At home, I am the sole provider for my spouse, my 16-year-old, and my elderly parents. Like many families in our county, we are already struggling to keep up with basic necessities such as groceries, gas, and utilities. Losing my job would mean losing my home and becoming dependent on the very safety-net programs I work so hard to help others access. I know I am not alone in this situation, and I respectfully ask that you help us keep our jobs so we can continue supporting our community with dignity and stability.

COUNTY HEALTH – LOMPOC HEALTH CARE CENTER
Administrative Office Professional
28+ years of service

Dear Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to you with a lot of concern, not only for my own livelihood, but for the entire community we all serve. Every day at the Lompoc Health Care Center, my work helps people stay healthy, access care, and feel supported during some of the most vulnerable moments of their lives. I verify insurance coverage, help patients enroll in state programs, and make sure no one is turned away simply because they cannot afford care. The work you do as our elected leaders directly affects our ability to continue providing these essential services, and the decisions you make have real consequences through every household in our county. Your role is crucial, and I hope you will continue to stand with the workers who keep our community functioning.

At home, I carry the responsibility of supporting my young son, my husband, my elderly mother, and even my adult son who is struggling to afford basic living expenses. Rising costs of food, gas, and utilities have placed enormous strain on us, especially with my husband commuting to Santa Barbara five days a week and spending up to \$300 weekly on fuel alone. Losing my job would be

devastating—not only financially, but because the hours I work allow me to be present for my son, who still needs daily support. I ask you to remember that behind every county position is a real family, a real story, and a real person doing their best to hold everything together. Your decisions matter more than you may realize.

Lompoc Health Care Center

Administrative Office Professional II

25+ years of service