

## COUNTY OF SANTABARBARA CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 23-29, 2024 AS DIAPER NEED AWARENESS WEEK IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

WHEREAS, diaper need, the inability to afford enough clean diapers, can adversely affect the health and well-being of children and their families; and

WHEREAS, national surveys indicate nearly one in two families struggles with diaper need, and 48 percent of families delay changing diapers to extend their supply; and

WHEREAS, a sufficient supply of diapers is often required for babies and toddlers to participate in child care and early-education programs, enabling children to thrive and parents to work; and

WHEREAS, without enough diapers, babies and toddlers risk infections that may require medical attention, leading to medical costs, and parents may be unable to access child care needed to work or attend school, destabilizing the family's economic well-being; and

WHEREAS, diaper need is a public health issue, and addressing it can lead to economic opportunities and improved health for children, ensuring all families have the basic necessities to thrive; and

WHEREAS, Santa Barbara County is proud to be home to community-based organizations like LEAP: Learn. Engage. Advocate. Partner., which distribute diapers to families, promoting health and economic stability; and

WHEREAS, LEAP established the only registered diaper bank in Santa Barbara County, which plays a critical role in supporting families, improving infant health, and advancing local and state economic growth;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED AND RESOLVED that September 26-29<sup>th</sup> is recognized as Diaper Need Awareness week in the County of Santa Barbara, and thank LEAP, their staff, volunteers, and donors for their service, and encourage citizens to support organizations that distribute diapers to families in need, so that all children and families in Santa Barbara County can thrive.

Passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California, this 10th day of September 2024, by unanimous vote of all members present.

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