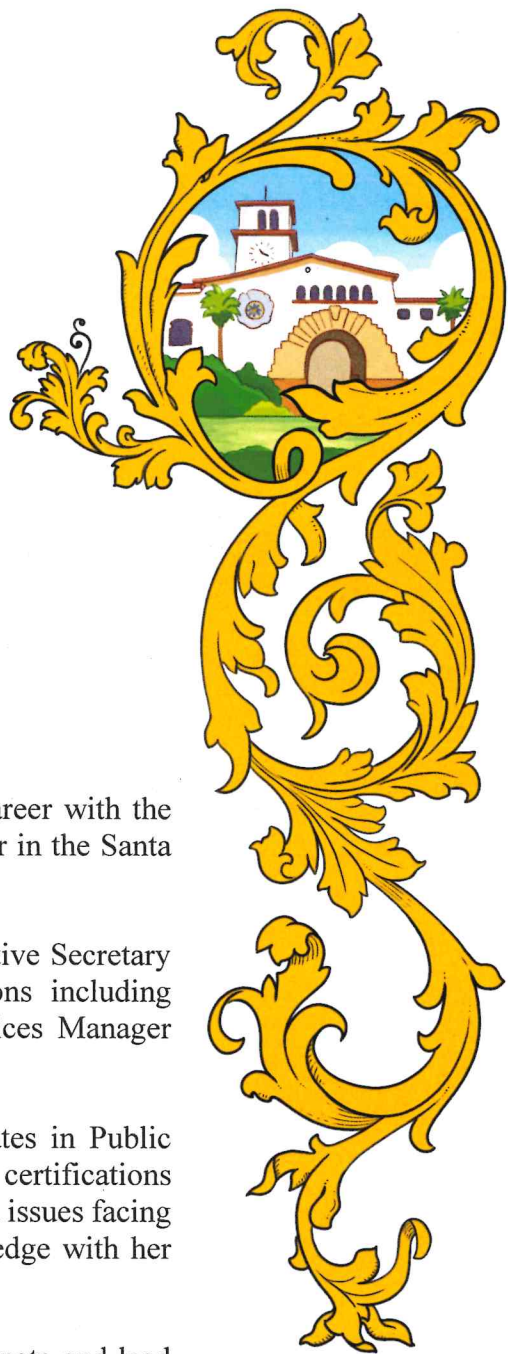


# Santa Barbara County of



RESOLUTION NO. 26-54

## RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING HEATHER GARDNER FOR HER 25 YEARS OF DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVICE IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

**WHEREAS**, on July 18, 2001, Heather Gardner began her extraordinary 25-year career with the County of Santa Barbara Department of Social Services as an Office Assistant, Senior in the Santa Maria Betteravia Office's administration unit; and

**WHEREAS**, Heather rose through the clerical ranks serving as the Director's Executive Secretary before promoting to Department Analyst and then into management classifications including Team/Project Leader, Program/Business Leader, and Business Administrative Services Manager where she now serves as the Data Analytics & Operations Support Manager; and

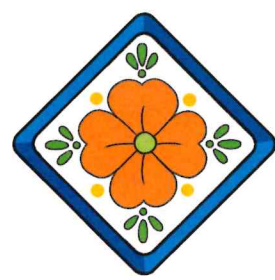
**WHEREAS**, Heather furthered her education by completing two graduate certificates in Public Management and Data Analytics, and received Green Belt, Black Belt, and Facilitator certifications through InnovateSBC, deepening her understanding of the evolving needs and complex issues facing safety net programs, and generously sharing her accumulated experience and knowledge with her staff and colleagues; and

**WHEREAS**, Heather has exemplified what it is to be a public servant helping coordinate and lead important initiatives such as Veterans' Stand Down, oversight of the 2-1-1 contract, development of the County's Snapshot on Poverty, the CalFresh Utilization Project, automated tools such as the Equalizer, and numerous data dashboards; and

**WHEREAS**, Heather inspired many with her dedication to continuous improvement, her commitment to excellence, and her drive for meaningful impact in public service, and throughout her tenure has been known for an unmistakable enthusiasm for data, a proud "data nerd" who consistently transformed spreadsheets into strategy and complex challenges into actionable solutions, demonstrating that careful analysis, persistence, and thoughtful overthinking can meaningfully strengthen systems and enhance public service delivery;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED** that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara does hereby acknowledge her 25 years of dedicated and faithful public service to the residents of Santa Barbara County, and honors, commends, and congratulates Heather upon her retirement on March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California, this 10th day of March, 2026 by a unanimous vote of all members present.



*Maria Nizaset*  
ATTEST: Clerk of the Board

*[Signature]*  
Supervisor - 1st District

*[Signature]*  
Supervisor - 2nd District

*Joan Bachman*  
Supervisor - 3rd District

*[Signature]*  
Supervisor - 4th District

*[Signature]*  
Supervisor - 5th District

