

# COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

## RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MARCH 2009 AS PROFESSIONAL SOCIAL WORK MONTH

*WHEREAS social workers have the needed education and experience to guide individuals, families, and communities through complex issues and choices;*

*WHEREAS social workers are society's safety net, providing vital resources and support to those who need it most twenty four hours per day, seven days per week, three hundred sixty five days per year;*

*WHEREAS social workers are passionate, purpose-driven individuals who advocate for others to ensure that everyone has access to the same basic rights, protections, and opportunities;*

*WHEREAS social workers help people help themselves, whenever and wherever they need it most;*

*WHEREAS the theme for Social Work Month 2009 is "Social Work: Purpose and Possibility", recognizing the national need to recruit more compassionate people to the social work profession to ensure its future;*

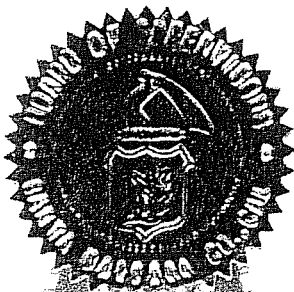
*WHEREAS Adult and Child Social Workers worked tirelessly to identify, locate, and assist the children and vulnerable adults served by our agency during the recent fires and potential flood disasters;*

*WHEREAS Adult Protective Services social workers in 2008 responded to 1,438 reports of elder and dependent adult abuse in Santa Barbara County helping to maintain the elder and dependent adult safely in their own homes, avoiding institutionalization, by promoting optimal health and safety;*

*WHEREAS Adult Protective Services social workers, by working closely with a multitude of agencies and community resources, not uncommonly preserves assets in excess of \$100,000, and upon occasion in excess of \$1,000,000, for vulnerable individuals in our communities;*

*WHEREAS Adoption and Child Welfare social workers assisted more than 82 children to secure a family for life through adoption in 2008;*

*WHEREAS Child Welfare social workers evaluated more than 4,100 referrals alleging child abuse or neglect in the past year and provided an in-person investigation on 88% of those referrals in order to ensure the safety and well-being of children in our Santa Barbara County communities;*



*S. Lopez*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor - 1st District

*Jant Wolf*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor - 2nd District

*A. Sheldahl*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor - 3rd District

*Joni Gray*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor - 4th District

*J. Ventura*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor - 5th District

ATTEST: *[Signature]*  
Clerk of the Board

**WHEREAS** Adoption and Child Welfare social workers provided ongoing case management and supportive services in conjunction with our community partners to more than 835 children and their families in 2008 through the programs of family preservation, family maintenance, family reunification, and/or permanent placement services;

**WHEREAS** In Home Supportive Services social workers provide assistance to those eligible aged, blind and disabled individuals who are unable to remain safely in their own homes without this service. By providing assistance with daily tasks of living such as homemaker and personal care services, In Home Supportive Services maintains quality of life while avoiding the more costly alternative of institutionalization.

**WHEREAS** In Home Supportive Services social workers assisted 1,540 individuals through the application process and maintained benefits for more than 2,800 elderly or disabled citizens of Santa Barbara County in 2008.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara recognizes March 2009 as PROFESSIONAL SOCIAL WORK MONTH, in recognition, celebration and support of our County's professional social workers and their commitment and dedication to individuals, families and our community.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California, twenty-fourth of March, two thousand and nine, by a unanimous vote of all members present.