

RESOLUTION NO. 24-64

RESOLUTION DESIGNATING APRIL 2024 AS TAX SEASON

IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

Whereas, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance preparers (VITA) play a crucial role in assisting low-income individuals and families with tax preparation;

Whereas, United Way of Santa Barbara County VITA program volunteers and partners provide essential services in ensuring that taxpayers, particularly those who make \$67,000 or less a year understand tax laws, are able to fulfill their tax obligations accurately and efficiently;

Whereas, the VITA program generates substantial community impact, filing an average of 2,000 returns each year, which return an average of over \$2,000,000 back to the local community.

Whereas, VITA volunteers contribute significantly to promoting financial literacy and empowerment within communities by educating taxpayers about tax laws, deductions, and credits;

Whereas, VITA volunteers foster a sense of community engagement and solidarity by volunteering their time and expertise to support fellow citizens in navigating the complexities of the tax system;

Whereas, VITA volunteers serve as valuable advocates for vulnerable populations, ensuring equitable access to tax assistance and advocating for policies that promote economic justice and inclusion;

Whereas, VITA volunteers contribute to the economic well-being of communities by helping taxpayers access important financial resources, such as Earned Income Tax Credits (EITC) and Child Tax Credits, which can have a profound impact on household stability and prosperity;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Santa Barbara County recognizes and recognizes the month of April 2024 as Tax Season and acknowledges and appreciates the invaluable contributions of Volunteer Income Tax Preparers to our communities

Passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California, this 2nd day of April, 2024, by unanimous vote of all members present.