



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2007 AS CHILDREN'S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH

WHEREAS: California's number one health related problem for children is dental disease, it affects more than two-thirds of the state's elementary school children; and,

WHEREAS: unlike many other diseases, dental disease is almost entirely preventable if you start practicing good habits early, once children are in school and parents detect tooth decay, it's too late, good oral health habits must start prenatal; and,

WHEREAS: dental disorders can have a profound effect on children which include development, suffering needless pain, difficulty speaking and swallowing, trouble concentrating, missing school more often, lowering self-esteem and medical complications of untreated oral disease; and,

WHEREAS: the California Children's Dental Disease Prevention Program, sponsored by the Public Health Department and the State of California, was established 26 years ago to provide education and instruction on oral health in the areas of plaque control, nutrition, the use of dental agents (including fluorides and sealants), dental injury prevention (including the use of mouth-guards), the need for regular dental care and preparation for visiting the dentist; and,

WHEREAS: through the collaborative efforts of the Dental Access Resource Team (DART), Santa Barbara Neighborhood Clinics and various donations, the Carrillo Family Dental Clinic site has moved and expanded and is now called the Eastside Family Dental Clinic, they accept Medi-Cal and Healthy Families coverage; and,

WHEREAS: monitoring children's oral health, taking steps to prevent dental disease, treating problems early and raising public awareness are key to a healthier tomorrow; and

WHEREAS: because of the dedication and volunteer commitment of the Assistance League of Santa Barbara, the Eastside Family Dental Clinic is provided with Assistance League volunteers to give oral health education to their patients, the members participate in Nutrition Decathlons and Health Fairs in local elementary schools and provide dental kits and visual aides for special events.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors proclaim the month of February, 2007 as CHILDREN'S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH.

Passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California, on this 6th day of February, 2007 by unanimous vote of all members present.



ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board

Supervisor - 1st District

Supervisor - 2nd District

Supervisor - 3rd District

Supervisor - 4th District

Supervisor - 5th District