

## COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING NOVEMBER 2008 TO BE NATIONAL COURT ADOPTION AND PERMANENCY MONTH

WHEREAS, the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors does hereby recognize that it is every child's basic right to belong to a secure, loving, permanent family; and

WHEREAS, in California, more than 18,000 children in foster care are waiting to be adopted; and the average child waits for an adoptive family for more than two years, while many spend five years or more waiting for permanent, loving homes;

WHEREAS, in 2007, ninety adoptions were finalized in Santa Barbara County and we anticipate at least that number this year. Santa Maria Juvenile Court will celebrate Adoptions Day on November 20, when approximately 15 adoptions will be finalized; and

WHEREAS, adoption provides children with security and stability, gives them a brighter future and brings a sense of fulfillment and joy to both the child and the adoptive parents;

WHEREAS, local courts and communities throughout California have created programs promoting permanency, resulting in a decrease in the number of children waiting for permanent homes; and

WHEREAS those children waiting for adoptive parents, as well as the families who have adopted these children require and deserve community and public agency support and Court Adoption and Permanency Month gives our community an opportunity to honor the dedication of relatives, foster families, other adoptive families, social workers, public and private adoption services and community partners who have worked together to ensure a better life for the children of Santa Barbara County.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors recognizes the month of November 2008 as COURT ADOPTION AND PERMANENCY MONTH.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors and the County of Santa Barbara, State of California, this eighteenth day of November, two thousand and eight, by a unanimous vote of all members

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board

Supervisor - 1st District

Supervisor - 2nd District

Sunda Finistene

Supervisor - 3rd District

Supervisor - 4th District

Supervisor - 5th District