

Y OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, thousands of children are diagnosed with pediatric cancer each year throughout the United States, hugely impacting their lives and all who know and love them; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Science Institute, survivors of childhood cancer need follow-up care and enhanced medical surveillance for the rest of their lives because of the risk of complications that can occur many years after they complete treatment for their cancer; and

WHEREAS, the cause of most childhood cancers are unknown. While genetic and environmental factors contribute to childhood cancer, it is difficult to determine what children might have been exposed to early in their development that could lead to cancer, making awareness for the need of continuing research crucial for finding effective prevention and treatment; and

WHEREAS, local awareness and community emotional and financial support exemplified by the Teddy Bear Foundation is essential for families, as out of pocket medical costs typically exceed \$10,000 annually for proper treatment while requiring frequent hospitalizations and extended absences from work to care for a sick child; and

WHEREAS, national awareness and organizations such as the Kids Cancer Connection provide other vital services that enhance the quality of life for those affected-building self-esteem of patients and giving them positive recognition, supporting and connecting families, and increasing public awareness of childhood cancer overall:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors proclaims September as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in Santa Barbara County and encourages all residents to support children and families in our community who are affected by pediatric cancer.

Passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California this 9th day of September, 2014 by a unanimous vote of all members present.

IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

ATTEST:

erk of the Board

Supervisor - 1st District

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4th District

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