



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

**RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING
THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2023
BREASTFEEDING MONTH
IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY**

WHEREAS, World Breastfeeding Month in August 2023 focus is on breastfeeding and employment/work. The goal is to educate on the impact of paid leave and workplace support on breastfeeding, and engage our communities to play their role in empowering families and sustain breastfeeding friendly environments in the post-pandemic work life; and

WHEREAS, decades of research indicate that mother's milk is healthiest for children and breastfeeding benefits both mothers and babies. The optimal nutrition in breastmilk contributes to reduction in the incidence and severity of diseases, such as Type 2 diabetes, respiratory and ear infections, obesity, asthma, and Sudden Infant Death syndrome; and

WHEREAS, breastfeeding plays an important role in managing the double burden of malnutrition in addition to providing food security and reducing inequalities; and

WHEREAS, breastmilk contains 3 million germ killing cells per teaspoon. Recent studies demonstrated COVID-19 antibodies in the breastmilk of vaccinated or recently infected lactating mothers, which can potentially pass along protection to the breastfed infant.; and

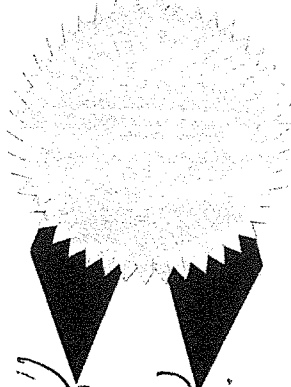
WHEREAS, Santa Barbara County Public Health Department Nutrition Services / Women Infants and Children (WIC) has some of the highest breastfeeding rates in California and the United States, along with a multitude of lactation educated staff and seven International Board Certified Lactation Consultants (IBCLCs); and

WHEREAS, Nutrition Services / WIC pioneered a two-way breastfeeding texting program that is nationally and internationally recognized. The innovative and comprehensive services provided in Santa Barbara County is looked to as a model for other California WIC agencies to follow; and

WHEREAS, Nutrition Services / WIC works diligently to meet the breastfeeding goals of our low-income population, including the ability to assist in increasing and sustaining milk supply in light of formula shortages; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors does observe the month of August 2023 as Breastfeeding Month.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, by the Board of Supervisors, County of Santa Barbara, State of California, this twenty-second day of August 2023, by a unanimous vote of all members present.



ATTEST:

Monica [Signature]
Clerk of the Board

[Signature]
Supervisor - 1st District

[Signature]
Supervisor - 2nd District

[Signature]
Supervisor - 3rd District

[Signature]
Supervisor - 4th District

[Signature]
Supervisor - 5th District