



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

**RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING APRIL 2011
AS AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH
IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY**

WHEREAS, Autism is a complex neurobiological disorder that typically lasts throughout a person's lifetime and is part of a group known as autism spectrum disorders (ASDs) and affects all persons regardless of race, religion, socio-economic status or geography; and

WHEREAS, The current rate of Autism diagnosis is 1:110 individuals, and 80% of people diagnosed with Autism are male. It is the third most common developmental disability in the United States, affecting more than 2097 individuals in this County, 1701 of whom are under age 22; and

WHEREAS, Many are not adequately informed about ASDs and the value and importance of early identification, assessment, and treatment of these disorders. Individuals with ASDs and their families face tremendous and overwhelming challenges in accessing and navigating the complex programs and services for these disorders; and

WHEREAS, Family members have made invaluable contributions through their commitment, caring, and advocacy to important advances in research, education, and treatment for individuals with ASDs. Autism Awareness Month and the work of the Autism Society of Santa Barbara helps to increase and develop knowledge of autism, and are of paramount importance in creating an empathetic and compassionate citizenry.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Autism Society of Santa Barbara in cooperation with the County of Santa Barbara, affirms its commitment to the important issues described in this resolution by declaring April 2011 as Autism Awareness Month in the County of Santa Barbara and emphasizes that each and every individual with an ASD is a valued and important member of our society.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California, this 19th day of April 2011 by a unanimous vote of all members present.



ATTEST:

Chandra Walker
Clerk of the Board

<i>L. J. Cell</i>	Supervisor - 1st District
<i>Janet Wiley</i>	Supervisor - 2nd District
<i>Debrae Tave</i>	Supervisor - 3rd District
<i>Joni Gray</i>	Supervisor - 4th District
<i>St. Juan</i>	Supervisor - 5th District