

## COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING NOVEMBER 2019 TO BE COURT ADOPTION AND PERMANENCY MONTH

WHEREAS, California has more than 25,000 children and youth currently waiting for a permanent and loving family; 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, and

WHEREAS, in Santa Barbara County there are over 375 children and youth in foster care; and there are currently more than 100 children and youth awaiting adoption by a Forever Family that will that meets the child's needs for security, unconditional love, and the opportunity to reach his or her fullest potential, and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that at least 80 adoptions will be finalized this year in Santa Barbara County; and Santa Maria Juvenile Court will celebrate National Adoptions Day on November 19, where 6 children will have their adoption finalized, and

WHEREAS, those children waiting for adoptive parents enter the Child Welfare System not of their own choosing but are forced into the system due to unfortunate or tragic circumstances; and their lives are changed by the families who love and adopt these children, and

WHEREAS, Santa Barbara County depends on the resource families that open their hearts to children, provide permanent loving homes, and a future filled with the joy, wonder and opportunity that a secure and loving Forever Family provides, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors recognize the month of November 2019 as COURT ADOPTION AND PERMANENCY MONTH.

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

Supervisor - 1st District
Supervisor - 2nd District
Supervisor - 3rd District
Supervisor - 4th District
Clerk of the Board
Supervisor - 5th District