



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2025 BREASTFEEDING MONTH IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

WHEREAS, World Breastfeeding Month in August 2025 adopts the theme "Prioritize Breastfeeding: Create Sustainable Support Systems", which is a call to build lasting, equitable support for breastfeeding parents everywhere. County of Santa Barbara Health Department supports this goal through dedicated efforts to promote, protect, and sustain breastfeeding in our community; and

WHEREAS, decades of research indicate that breastmilk provides optimal nutrition for children and breastfeeding benefits both lactating parents and babies. Breastmilk contains 3 million antibodies per teaspoon. 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, County Health has multi-layered lactation support services with highly trained staff at each site, including the WIC program, MCAH, and Federally Qualified Health Centers. County of Santa Barbara's WIC program maintains one of the highest exclusive breastfeeding rates in California, reaching 41.6% as of March 2025, compared to the statewide WIC average of 21%; and

WHEREAS, The Regional Breastfeeding Liaison program promotes seamless breastfeeding support by collaborating with health care providers, hospitals, employers, and the community. Recent efforts focused on assisting Lompoc Valley Medical Center (LVMC) to increase exclusive breastfeeding rates, improve care for the parent/baby dyad, and reduce racial disparities by becoming the first hospital in California to enroll in the CHAMPS National Program—a CDC-funded initiative that provides expert training and support to implement the Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding. Join us on August 29th at LVMC to celebrate breastfeeding; and

WHEREAS, 2025 marks an important milestone for the "County of Santa Barbara Health Department—its 100th anniversary. We hope to continue and advance support of breastfeeding needs throughout our County, including assisting with milk supply and supporting clients returning to work or school. A breastfed baby leads to a healthy individual, a healthy community, and a healthy environment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County does hereby acknowledge World Breastfeeding Month.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California, this 19th day of August, 2025 by a unanimous vote of all members present.



ATTEST:

Maria Nigamati
Clerk of the Board

[Signature]
Supervisor - 1st District

[Signature]
Supervisor - 2nd District

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Supervisor - 3rd District

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Supervisor - 4th District

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Supervisor - 5th District