



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

**RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING SEPTEMBER 2019
CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH
IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY**

WHEREAS, an estimated 15,780 children (1 in 285) are diagnosed with pediatric cancer each year throughout the United States, hugely impacting their lives and all who know and love them; and

WHEREAS, currently the survival rate for children with cancer is 80% as 1 out of every 5 children will pass away from the disease, and survivors of childhood cancer need additional care & enhanced medical surveillance for the rest of their lives as studies show that by the age of 45, 95% of survivors will have a chronic health problem and 80% will have severe or life-threatening conditions due to complications from medical treatments 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 & financial support are essential for families in Santa Barbara County, as out of pocket medical costs typically exceed \$10,000 annually for proper treatment while requiring frequent hospital stays and extended absences from work to care for a sick child; and

WHEREAS, national awareness and organizations & non-profits provide other vital services that enhance the quality of life for those affected, such as building self-esteem of patients and giving them positive recognition, supporting and connecting families, organizing events to build cherished memories 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 17th day of September, 2019 by a unanimous vote of all members present.



ATTEST:

Juanne Reynolds
Clerk of the Board

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Supervisor - 1st District
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Supervisor - 2nd District
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Supervisor - 3rd District
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Supervisor - 4th District
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Supervisor - 5th District