

**RESOLUTION HONORING MICHAEL X. DEAN
UPON HIS RETIREMENT AFTER 36 YEARS OF SERVICE TO
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

Whereas, Michael X. Dean is retiring from the Santa Barbara County Department of Social Services after thirty-six years of exceptional service and leadership to the Department, Santa Barbara County and the State of California;

Whereas, Michael began his career with the Santa Barbara County Social Services Department on January 10, 1972 as an Eligibility Worker, promoted to Social Services Worker within the year and in this position created the first Adult Board and Care Licensing Program and later served as director of JEFF, the interagency Foster Home Recruitment Program;

Whereas, Michael decided to make Public Social Work his lifelong career and obtained his Master's Degree in Social Work from UCLA in June 1978 and upon his return, continued to provide exemplary case management for his clients in the Child Welfare Services Program and in 1985 was promoted to a supervisory position where he demonstrated outstanding leadership skills;

Whereas, Michael continued to be a life long learner, earning a Professional Designation in Human Resource Management from the University of California, Los Angeles;

Whereas, Michael was promoted to a Social Services Division Chief position in 1989 where he provided leadership to the Human Resources, Program Support and Staff Development Divisions;

Whereas, in 1996 Michael was asked to assume the lead in the Department's implementation of MISC - the Multi-Agency Integrated System of Care. This successful collaboration between four county departments, community based organizations and clients resulted in a dramatic reduction in children being placed in foster care. Demonstrating confidence in his versatility the DSS Director next asked Michael to take the lead in the implementation of a state mandated, complex computer system for Child Welfare Services and Santa Barbara County was recognized by the State of California for a highly successful implementation.

Whereas, in 1997 Michael was promoted to Deputy Director for Child Welfare Services countywide where he led numerous changes and innovations including the Child Abuse Hotline, the Court Services Unit and Foster Care services;

Whereas, in 2004 Michael led the development of the State mandated Child Welfare Services System Improvement Plan; a collaborative effort involving over 100 people from more than 60 public and private agencies; and

Whereas, in 2004 Michael was asked to lead the final implementation of the CalWIN computer system, which affected virtually all of DSS clients and staff.

Whereas, throughout his years of service Michael was also highly involved with the Department's statewide association, the County Welfare Director's Association. He served on the Child Welfare Services/Case Management System Oversight Committee and the Child Welfare Service and the Information Technology Committees. He also planned and ran the golf tournament at the CWDA Annual Meeting in 1999!

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors commends Michael X. Dean for his exceptional public service and professional contribution to the citizens of Santa Barbara County and to the Department of Social Services and does hereby extend its appreciation and best wishes in future endeavors.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California, this 5th day of February, 2008, by a unanimous vote of all members present.