

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

RESOLUTION HONORING JOSEPHINE BLACK UPON HER RETIREMENT FROM THE INDEPENDENT LIVING RESOURCE CENTER, INC.

CALIFORNIA

WHEREAS, Josephine (Jo) Black is retiring from the Independent Living Resource Center (ILRC) after serving as Executive Director since 1989; and

WHEREAS, Josephine Black has had a long and successful career in the provision of disability services and sign language interpreting throughout the tri-counties with a positive and enduring impact to the residents of Santa Barbara County; and

WHEREAS, by working tirelessly to remove barriers in the communities served, Josephine successfully increased advocacy for people with disabilities, which includes her service on several state councils; the Statewide Independent Living Council, the Department of Rehabilitation's Deaf and Hard of Hearing Advisory Council, the California Mental Health Planning Council, and several county advisory bodies—IHSS Advisory Committee, and the Santa Barbara County Adult and Aging Network; and

WHEREAS, under Josephine Black's vision and leadership the ILRC expanded its services and outreach by increasing its funding from \$400,000 to \$1.2 million annually. The additional funds provide enhanced equipment and services for people with disabilities who have little or no other options to receive the assistance they need. In addition, Jo was instrumental in establishing the Independent Living Memorial Fund and the Linda Egar Access to Independence Fund; and

WHEREAS, Josephine Black acquired national training and expertise in barrier removal and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (1990) and other national access legislation, as well as California access laws. She provided strategies for businesses and organizations serving people in the county to better serve and accommodate those with access needs, and advised the county of ways to better include people with disabilities in the infrastructure planning for disaster mitigation; and

WHEREAS, Josephine Black has performed for the past 30 years as an American Sign Language interpreter in the tri-counties and as a state-wide advocate for the rights and needs of people with disabilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors honors Josephine Black upon her retirement from the Independent Living Resource Center and further commends her in her work to create a more inclusive and welcoming community for persons with disabilities.

Passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California on this 21st day of October 2014 by unanimous vote of all members present.

Supervisor - 1st District

Supervisor - 2nd District

Supervisor - 3rd District

Supervisor - 4th District

EST: ______

Clerk of the Board

Supervisor - 5th District