

**RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING
DECEMBER 1, 2017
WORLD AIDS DAY IN
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY**

WHEREAS, on December 1, 2017, in honor of World AIDS Day, the Santa Barbara County Public Health Department joins the global partnership to promote the Center for Disease Control's message to "Increasing Impact through Transparency, Accountability, and Partnerships"; and

WHEREAS, 1.1 million people in the US are living with HIV, and 1 in 7 of them don't know it; people living with HIV receiving medical care and achieving viral load suppression, have a dramatically lower chance of transmitting the virus to others; and

WHEREAS, Public Health employee, Maria Garcia, was selected by the Santa Barbara Independent as a local hero for 30 years of dedicated service as a medical assistant at the Public Health Department HIV clinic; Maria has been the medical assistant for the County HIV clinic since 1987; and,

WHEREAS, Maria was an medical assistant during the darkest days of the HIV epidemic, and tells stories of reviewing patient lists of those who had died every month, or of the end of life care that was often part of the routine clinic visits; and,

WHEREAS, from then until now Maria remains the heart and soul of the clinic, and has been there as a pillar of support for all of our patients and their families for decades.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County does hereby proclaim the 1st day of December 2017 as World AIDS Day in Santa Barbara County.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California this 5th day of December 2017, by a unanimous vote of all members present.