



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION DESIGNATING FEBRUARY 2024 AS CHILDREN'S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

WHEREAS, the well-being of our nation's children is of paramount importance; and

WHEREAS, oral health significantly contributes to the overall health and development of children, influencing their capacity to thrive and realize their full potential; and

WHEREAS, tooth decay continues to be a prevalent chronic ailment among children, impacting their eating, speaking, and concentration in school, thereby impeding academic and social success; and

WHEREAS, disparities in access to dental care persist, disproportionately affecting vulnerable and underserved populations, compounding the challenges faced by children in achieving optimal oral health; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, the Santa Barbara Neighborhood Clinics (SBNC) introduced a groundbreaking enhancement to its pediatric dental services—a mobile dental clinic—made possible by a \$100,000 grant from the Women's Fund of Santa Barbara. The clinic now serves 200-400 children weekly; and

WHEREAS, children at all schools in the Santa Barbara Unified School District and the Carpinteria Children's Project are eligible for free screenings and oral health education from SBNC; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Santa Barbara County recognizes and celebrates the month of February 2024 as National Children's Dental Health Month and encourages schools, healthcare providers, families, and community organizations to participate in activities and events that promote oral health education and awareness for children.

Passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California, this 27th day of February, 2024, by unanimous vote of all members present.



ATTEST:

Monica Reyes
Clerk of the Board

Pat Williams
Supervisor - 1st District

Lakisha
Supervisor - 2nd District

Joan Anderson
Supervisor - 3rd District

Bob
Supervisor - 4th District

G. Duran
Supervisor - 5th District