From:	Shantal Hover <shantalhover@gmail.com>
Sent:	Tuesday, June 27, 2023 9:47 AM
To:	sbcob
Cc:	Jenny Tucker
Subject:	WEB Funding - Board of Supervisors
Attachments:	WEB Funding - Board of Supervisors.pdf

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Dear County Supervisors and Staff,

Please see the enclosed letter in regards to the upcoming discussion on WEB Funding.

Thank you,
Shantal Hover Jones

Dear Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors,

I am writing today to urge you to fund the Welcome Every Baby (WEB) program to support the young families in this community. This program has supported countless new parents in the early and most critical time in the newborn journey. This care provides a much needed protective layer for the mother-baby dyad when it comes to breastfeeding, postpartum healing, mental health and physical wellbeing. I have personally benefitted from this program during the birth of my first baby in the peak of the covid pandemic in 2020. The WEB nurse checked in on every aspect of my healing, and made an extra effort to assist me with early breastfeeding challenges. The words she shared that day are part of the reason I successfully breastfeed my daughter for 2 years. What they do makes an impact and should be considered an essential service. The prenatal care given to most women is extensive, but the postnatal care is severely lacking in this community and this loss of service is another major blow to that fragile and tender time of healing. The support a mother gets in her postpartum period impacts the rest of her and her baby's life. This is a critical time of need for all parents. I urge you to take action to fund these services for the wellbeing of our youngest community members and their mothers and birthing persons.

Thank you for your time and assistance on this important matter,
Shantal Hover-Jones