

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING JUNE 2014 AS CALFRESH AWARENESS MONTH IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

CALIFORNIA

WHEREAS, an estimated 16% of County residents, including 20% of County children, are living in poverty, in households that sometimes struggle to put food on the table; and

WHEREAS, families that cannot consistently afford enough food, face a variety of consequences including hunger, higher risk of chronic diseases such as diabetes and hypertension, depression and poor mental health, and poor academic outcomes for children; and

WHEREAS, CalFresh (also known as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP), a federallyfunded program administered locally by the Santa Barbara County Department of Social Services, can help by providing low-income families with a monthly benefit to help them purchase food; and

WHEREAS, CalFresh is a powerful tool against hunger and malnutrition, helping 35,522 individuals (many of them seniors and children) in 15,749 needy households in our county to put nutritious food on their family table every day; and

WHEREAS, these benefits total \$4,978,925 per month, providing significant economic benefit in our community for working families, farmers and grocery stores, with \$1.70 in economic activity generated for every dollar spent on CalFresh benefits; and

WHEREAS up to 43,460 individuals may be eligible for CalFresh in our County but do not receive it, leading the Department of Social Services to collaborate with community-based organizations such as Foodbank of Santa Barbara County, Children's Health Initiative of Santa Barbara County, and the Network of Family Resource Centers, to heighten public awareness of, and access to, the CalFresh program.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors recognizes June 2014 as CalFresh Awareness Month in the County of Santa Barbara.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California this 3rd day of June, 2014 by a unanimous vote of all members present.

Supervisor - 1st District

Onut: WW

Supervisor - 2nd District

All Care

Supervisor - 3rd District

Supervisor - 4th District

Clerk of the Board

Supervisor - 5th District