

*The Board of Supervisors of
Contra Costa County, California*

In the matter of:

Resolution No. 2011/470

Recognizing World AIDS Day, Commending Community Partners for their efforts to Prevent HIV Infections, Supporting those living with HIV/AIDS, and Honoring those who have died to the pandemic.

WHEREAS, this year marks the 30th year since first reports of AIDS cases were made in the United States; and

WHEREAS, one in five people who are HIV positive do not know it; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that more than 4,470 Contra Costa residents have been infected with HIV since the beginning of the epidemic; and

WHEREAS, there are approximately 2,440 people living with HIV or AIDS in Contra Costa County with approximately 35% of them in West County; and

WHEREAS, the United States has a National AIDS Strategy that states, “The stigma associated with HIV remains extremely high and fear of discrimination causes some Americans to avoid learning their HIV status, disclosing their HIV status, or accessing medical care”; and

WHEREAS, we can prevent new infections through facing HIV/AIDS and taking action; and

WHEREAS, community based agencies have partnered with the health department and taken action in Contra Costa since the beginning of the epidemic; and

WHEREAS, Brookside Community Health Center has provided high quality medical care for vulnerable residents living with HIV/AIDS; and

WHEREAS, Community Health Empowerment under the leadership of Bobby Bowens continues to distribute over 176,000 clean syringes annually to prevent HIV and Hepatitis C; and

WHEREAS, Neighborhood House of North Richmond provides prevention education and outreach services to connect people living with HIV/AIDS with medical care and other services; and

WHEREAS, Easter Hill United Methodist Church provides education and referral for HIV testing through their health ministry programs and health fairs;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS BY THE BOARD RESOLVED to commend the work of our community partners with the health department to prevent and support those living with HIV/AIDS and to recognize December 1, 2011 as World AIDS Day in Contra Costa County, and hereby call upon all citizens, parents, government agencies, elected officials, businesses, private institutions, non-profit agencies, religious communities, hospitals and schools to use our collective powers and energy to encourage dialogue about HIV/AIDS, integrate HIV testing into routine healthcare, supporting routine HIV testing, reducing stigma of HIV/AIDS and responding compassionately to people living with HIV, not just on World AIDS Day, but everyday.

GAYLE B. UILKEMA

Chair,
District II Supervisor

JOHN GIOIA
District I Supervisor

MARY N. PIEPHO
District III Supervisor

KAREN MITCHOFF
District IV Supervisor

FEDERAL D. GLOVER
District V Supervisor

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown.

ATTESTED: December 6, 2011

David J. Twa,

By: _____, Deputy