

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

In the matter of:

Resolution No. 2019/626

Adoption Awareness Month

WHEREAS, all children, infants, toddlers, school-aged and older youth, deserve a safe, loving and supportive environment and a place to call home; and

WHEREAS, Contra Costa County comes together as a community to celebrate our adoptive families and raise awareness about the number of children and teens who are still waiting for a permanent home; and

WHEREAS, in 2019 Children and Family Services (CFS), a bureau of the Employment and Human Services Department, completed its second non-minor dependent adoption; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, adoption was the permanency plan for more than 150 children in Contra Costa County, including adoptions by former foster parents, family members, and non-relatives, with one third of the children over eight years old; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, relatives adopted forty-six percent of the adopted children in Contra Costa County; and

WHEREAS, more than 1,600 families in the County are receiving adoption assistance and post-adoption support; and

WHEREAS, CFS' comprehensive recruitment efforts include attention toward filling the need for Resource Families specifically place older youth and those with complex needs; and

WHEREAS, adoptions are one of the successful outcomes that can play a role in preventing child abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, adopted children and teens need extra patience and support to help them overcome previous hardships, obtain stable home environments, or receive placements as part of a sibling group; and

WHEREAS many of these children have special needs related to physical, mental or emotional disabilities and need the support that adoptive families can provide; and

WHEREAS, there are families able and willing to adopt children who have a range of needs; and

WHEREAS, there are no restrictions on who can adopt based on race, ethnicity, religion, physical ability, income, sexual orientation or expression, gender identity, marital status; and

WHEREAS, adoption of children by family members encourages increased stability,

higher levels of permanency, more likelihood of staying connected to siblings, greater preservation of cultural identity, and positive behavioral and mental health outcomes due to placements with relative caregivers; and

WHEREAS, the many children in our local foster care program need and deserve the security and nurturing of permanent families, whether they are related or not; and

WHEREAS, Children and Family Services in Contra Costa County offers concurrent planning, enabling the placement of children in a potential adoptive home while working with the birth family to help overcome challenges and support reunification efforts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: we, the Board of Supervisors, do proclaim November as Adoption Awareness Month in Contra Costa County.

JOHN GIOIA
Chair, District I Supervisor

CANDACE ANDERSEN
District II Supervisor

DIANE BURGIS
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: November 5, 2019

David J. Twa,

By: _____, Deputy