# The Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County, California

In the matter of:

Resolution No. 2020/158

Proclaiming the month of June, 2020 as Elder Abuse Awareness Month

WHEREAS, older adults deserve to be treated with respect and dignity to enable them to serve as leaders, mentors, volunteers and vital participating members of our communities; and

WHEREAS, as our population lives longer, we are presented with an opportunity to honor older adults as we consider our collective needs and future as a nation; and WHEREAS, in Contra Costa County, Adult Protective Services (APS) receives more than 4,000 elder and dependent adult abuse reports per year and, in California, there are an estimated 202,549 cases of reported elder and dependent adult abuse annually; and

WHEREAS, elder abuse is significantly underreported, and is particularly concerning during the COVID-19 shelter-in-place when there has been a noticeable decline in elder abuse reporting with increased social isolation, known to be a major cause of elder abuse, and

WHEREAS, for a single known case of elder abuse in California, 24 are unknown, and one in 44 cases of financial abuse is known; and

WHEREAS, APS in Contra Costa County collaborates with several other county agencies to address social isolation through webinars, public service announcements, resource sharing and other awareness activities, especially during the COVID-19 health crisis; and

WHEREAS, community members can look out for the safety and protection of seniors and disabled adults by reporting various types of suspected elder abuse, including emotional, financial, physical, sexual, neglect, abandonment, or isolation; and WHEREAS, it is up to all of us to ensure that proper social structures exist so people can maintain connections, reducing the likelihood of abuse; and

WHEREAS, preventing abuse of older adults through maintaining and improving social supports like senior centers, nutrition programs, human services and transportation helps everyone continue living as independently as possible and contributing to the vibrancy of our communities.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors acknowledges and proclaims the month of June, 2020 as Elder Abuse Awareness Month in Contra Costa County, affirming the importance of supporting our older and disabled residents with services and programs to help keep them safe.

CANDACE ANDEDCEN

NDERSEN
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: June 16, 2020
David J. Twa,

By: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Deputy