

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

In the matter of:

Resolution No. 2021/319

Proclaiming the month of October 2021 as Head Start Awareness Month

WHEREAS, Head Start began in 1965 as one of the programs in the War Against Poverty legislation with the goal of increasing social competence for vulnerable children so that they could perform at the same level as their higher income peers;

WHEREAS, Head Start is distinguished from other early childhood programs by providing comprehensive services (medical, dental, mental health, nutrition, disabilities and social services) to children and families and establishing parent engagement as the cornerstone of the program;

WHEREAS, because of Head Start's success and demand in Contra Costa County, more than 4,000 children are on waiting lists for services at one of 51 Head Start and Early Head Start childcare sites, partner sites, and family care homes;

WHEREAS, the County currently has the capacity to serve 1904 children in Head Start and Early Head Start;

WHEREAS, brain development research shows the most formative years are from birth to three and Contra Costa acquired additional funding to reach more pregnant mothers and children 0-3 years of age to promote healthy early development;

WHEREAS, the award winning Contra Costa County Head Start Program run by the Community Services Bureau of the Employment & Human Services Department has been serving children for more than 55 years; its staff has received numerous individual recognitions while the program as a whole has been recognized for excellence by the National Head Start Association, California department of Education, and Contra Costa Health Services;

WHEREAS, currently 100 employees of Contra Costa Community Services Bureau staff are past or current Head Start parents who continue this tradition of excellence in early childhood education and comprehensive services;

WHEREAS, during the COVID-19 pandemic when populations served by Head Start are even more vulnerable, Head Start staff continues to provide early education and comprehensive services to families in centers and through distance learning;

WHEREAS, October is National Head Start Awareness Month;

in recognition of the numerous contributions that Contra Costa County's Head Start Program makes, we proclaim the month of October 2021 as Head Start Awareness Month.

DIANE BURGIS

Chair, District III Supervisor

JOHN GIOIA
District I Supervisor

CANDACE ANDERSEN
District II 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: October 5, 2021

Monica Nino, County Administrator

By: _____, Deputy