

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

In the matter of:

Resolution No. 2022/364

In the matter of proclaiming the month of October 2022 Breast Cancer Awareness and October 13, 2022 as Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day

WHEREAS, Each year, 200,000 Americans are diagnosed with breast cancer. Six to ten percent of these diagnoses are metastatic, or stage 4. Another 30% progress from stages 0, 1, 2 and 3 to stage 4 – sometimes immediately or sometimes later in their life; and

WHEREAS, According to the American Cancer Society, with the exception of skin cancer, breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer among American women; and

WHEREAS, About one in eight women in the United States will develop invasive breast cancer over the course of their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, It is estimated that 287,850 new cases of invasive breast cancer will be diagnosed in women in the United States in 2022; and

WHEREAS, Breast cancer is second only to lung cancer as the leading cause of cancer-related deaths among women; and

WHEREAS, It is estimated that about 43,250 women in the United States will die from breast cancer in 2022; and

WHEREAS, The 5-year survival for breast cancer is much higher when diagnosed at an early localized stage, approaching 99%; and

WHEREAS, Individuals who are uninsured or underinsured, are older, have a lower socioeconomic status, are from communities of color, or lack a usual source of care are less likely to be regularly screened for breast cancer and, therefore, more likely to be diagnosed at a late stage when chances of survival drop significantly. African-American women at every age are more likely to die from breast cancer; and

WHEREAS, From 2015-2019, there were 4,868 cases and 694 deaths caused by breast cancer in Contra Costa County; and

WHEREAS, From 2015-2019, in Contra Costa County, Non-Hispanic White women were diagnosed with invasive breast cancer at a higher rate than the county as a whole; and

WHEREAS, The risk of getting breast cancer increases with age until the 7th decade; and

WHEREAS, Earlier detection of breast cancer through mammography increases chances of successful treatment; and

WHEREAS, Mammography is the single most effective method of detecting breast changes that may be cancer, long before physical symptoms, detectable lumps, or abnormalities can be felt; and

WHEREAS, Medical professionals are still learning why cancer metastasizes, and we don't yet have an effective treatment to arrest metastatic growth, and that almost 40,000 men and women die from a diagnosis of Stage 4 breast cancer each year; and

WHEREAS, The median survival rate of two-three years for metastatic breast cancer has not changed significantly in decades; and

WHEREAS, The organization METAvivor is fighting to change these statistics. METAvivor's research mission is two-fold: to increase awareness about the funding discrepancy that shortchanges metastatic research in the cancer world, and to directly fund research that is currently lacking. With the primary goal of extending life and ending death from metastatic breast cancer, METAvivor awards grants for research projects that have the potential to shift metastatic breast cancer from a terminal disease to a chronic condition with a decent quality of life; and

WHEREAS, October 13 is recognized as the official Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day. This is done to shine a light on metastatic breast cancer, the most advanced stage of breast cancer, where the cancer has spread from the breast to other parts of the body; and

WHEREAS, The Pink ribbon is well-known for representing the fight against breast cancer but may not encapsulate the metastatic breast cancer experience. METAvivor designed a base ribbon of green and teal with a thin pink ribbon overlay. The base ribbon of green and teal represents green for the triumph of spring over winter, life over death, renewal, hope, and immortality; teal symbolizes healing and spirituality; and pink to signify the metastatic cancer originated in the breast; and

WHEREAS An estimated 41% of US adults have delayed or avoided medical care because of the pandemic, leading to a substantial decline in cancer screening. A recent UCSD study showed a decrease in people diagnosed with early- stage breast cancer and an increase in those diagnosed with advanced cases in 2020 and the first half of this year when compared to 2019, possibly due in part to patients putting off routine health screenings because of the pandemic. The American Cancer Society is mobilizing a nationwide return-to-screening effort to lessen the negative impacts the pandemic is having on opportunities for individuals to find cancer early when it might be easier to treat; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of all Californians to join this continuing battle against breast cancer including metastatic breast cancer by promoting greater awareness of the need for early detection, appropriate treatment, and the importance of funding research for extending life and finding a cure, as well as a means of prevention; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Contra Costa hereby proclaims October 13 as Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day and October 2021 as Breast Cancer Awareness Month in the County of Contra Costa BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County of Contra Costa joins with our local hospitals and health care organizations to honor all Breast Cancer survivors for their strength, courage, and determination; and to honor and remember those who courageously fought but lost their lives to Breast Cancer; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the County of Contra Costa applauds the hard work of METAvivor Research and Support, Inc. to fund research, raise awareness, advocate for, and provide information and support to people living with metastatic breast cancer.

KAREN MITCHOFF

Chair, District IV Supervisor

JOHN GIOIA

District I Supervisor

CANDACE ANDERSEN

District II Supervisor

DIANE BURGIS

District III 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 18, 2022

Monica Nino, County Administrator

By: _____, Deputy