

# Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County, California

IN THE MATTER OF PROCLAIMING APRIL 10 THROUGH APRIL 16, 2016, "WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD" IN RECOGNITION OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY'S CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO INVESTMENT IN YOUNG CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES

RESOLUTION NO. 2016/140

WHEREAS, the National Association for the Education of Young Children, in conjunction with the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, Contra Costa County Employment and Human Services Department, Community Services Bureau's Head Start and Child Development Program, Contra Costa County Local Planning and Advisory Council for Early Care and Education, Contra Costa Child Care Council, The Contra Costa County of Education, and First 5 Contra Costa is celebrating the thirty-fifth annual "Week of the Young Child" during April 10-16, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Contra Costa County shares a dedication for every young child to have access to safe, healthy, quality environments with passionate, educated, skilled, well-compensated and dedicated teachers; and

WHEREAS, the theme of the 2016 Week of the Young Child is "Access to Quality", highlighting that today we know more than ever before about the importance of children's earliest years in shaping their learning and development. Yet, never before have the needs of young children and their families been more pressing; and

WHEREAS, we have known for decades that the 0-5 years are the most critical in every human's life, when 90% of our brains are formed; when capacity for learning is unlimited and our potential boundless; and

WHEREAS, to achieve the best brain development, young children need to form secure bonds with the people who care for them; and

WHEREAS, it is difficult to attract and retain the best and brightest teachers when early care and education workforce wages are among the lowest nationwide; and

WHEREAS, nearly half of early educators (nationally) rely on public assistance to continue to teach and care for young children; and

WHEREAS, here in Contra Costa, families continue to struggle to make ends meet; nearly 22% of Contra Costa County's workforce are single mothers; and

WHEREAS, 52% of eligible families for subsidized child care are unable to benefit from high quality early education because there are not enough subsidies available; and

WHEREAS, a Contra Costa County minimum wage worker earning \$10/hour spends 58% of their paycheck on child care costs; and

WHEREAS, Contra Costa County is committed to closing the gap for families to access high quality early learning; and

WHEREAS, more than \$80,000,000 in public funding for child care and early learning is invested in Contra Costa each year; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Week of the Young Child is to recognize that the healthy development and education of all children is the responsibility of all of us, and to recommit ourselves to ensuring that each and every child experiences the type of early environment—at home, at child care, at school, and in the community—that will promote their early development.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County does hereby declare April 10-16, 2016 the

## Week of the Young Child

in Contra Costa County in honor of all of those committed to enhancing the lives of young children and their families, and encourages all citizens to support the investments for quality early care and education that will benefit all of Contra Costa's families.

PASSED by a unanimous vote of the Board of Supervisors members present this 12<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2016.

*[Signature]*  
CANDACE ANDERSEN

Chair,  
District II Supervisor

*[Signature]*  
JOHN GIOIA

District I Supervisor

*[Signature]*  
KAREN MITCHOFF

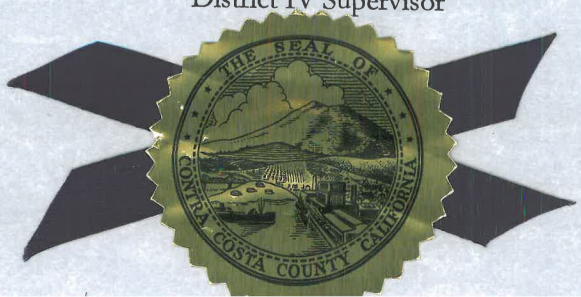
District IV Supervisor

*[Signature]*  
MARY N. PIEPHO

District III Supervisor

*[Signature]*  
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: April 12, 2016

DAVID TWA, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors and County Administrator

By *[Signature]*, Deputy