

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS  
ACTION AGENDA SUMMARY

DEPT: COMMUNITY SERVICES AGENCY

BOARD AGENDA # \*A-4

Urgent \_\_\_\_\_ Routine X

AGENDA DATE OCTOBER 30, 2001

CEO Concurs with Recommendation YES pl NO \_\_\_\_\_  
(Information Attached)

4/5 Vote Required YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO X

SUBJECT:

RECOMMEND THE PROCLAMATION OF NOVEMBER 2001 AS CALIFORNIA COURT ADOPTION AND PERMANENCY MONTH IN STANISLAUS COUNTY.

STAFF  
RECOMMEN-  
DATIONS:

1. RECOMMEND THE STANISLAUS COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PROCLAIM THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER AS CALIFORNIA COURT ADOPTION AND PERMANENCY MONTH.
2. PRESENT A RESOLUTION TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE FOSTER PARENTS ASSOCIATION AND/OR AN ADOPTIVE PARENT REPRESENTATIVE AT THE NOVEMBER 6, 2001 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING.

FISCAL  
IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this agenda item.

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2001-815

On motion of Supervisor Blom, Seconded by Supervisor Mayfield  
and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: Mayfield, Blom, Simon, and Chair Paul

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: Caruso

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

1) X Approved as recommended

2) \_\_\_\_\_ Denied

3) \_\_\_\_\_ Approved as amended

MOTION:

ATTEST: CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN, Clerk

By: Christine Ferraro Deputy

File No.

RECOMMEND THE PROCLAMATION OF NOVEMBER 2001 AS CALIFORNIA COURT ADOPTION AND PERMANENCY MONTH IN STANISLAUS COUNTY.

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**DISCUSSION:** Each year, the month of November is celebrated as National Adoption Month. During this time, the State and counties engage in activities to promote awareness of the need for adoptive homes.

During this last year Stanislaus County Community Services Agency Adoption Unit exceeded its commitment to place sixty-six children in adoptive homes. The Adoption Unit is pleased to report that ninety-one adoptions were finalized in the last fiscal year. This means that ninety-one children who were unable to reunify with their biological parents have found " forever families" through adoption. The new families for these children have made life long commitments to them that reflect the Adoption Unit's on-going efforts to provide supportive services to ensure success in permanency.

Stanislaus County Community Services Agency Adoption Unit's mission is to promote and uphold permanency for children through a specific and unique collaboration of services which emphasizes each child's quality of life while maintaining a family's independence in determining which services best meets the entire family's needs. Our vision is to continue to develop and provide the most comprehensive adoption program, which facilitates the utilization of supportive services during every aspect of the adoption process.

Post Adoption Services are an important aspect of the adoption time line and an area of recent expansion. This area focuses on the continued support of the adoptive family as a whole in order to meet the needs of the child and address the impact that those needs may have on the future successes of the child and the family.

The current post adoption program includes:

**Adoption Assistance Program**

This program continually assesses families and implements federal grant funding that can provide financial assistance to adoptive families to meet the basic needs of the child, special needs assistance and medical.

**YMCA memberships**

Enables the entire family to utilize the recreational services of the local YMCA including scholarships for camperships during the summer.

**Adoption Quarterly Speaker Dinners**

Provides educational speakers and an opportunity for adoptive families to network. Childcare reimbursement is available for these activities.

RECOMMEND THE PROCLAMATION OF NOVEMBER 2001 AS CALIFORNIA COURT  
ADOPTION AND PERMANENCY MONTH IN STANISLAUS COUNTY.

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DISCUSSION  
(CONT'D):

**Respite**

Facilitates a family's ability to participate in supportive services which in turn enriches the family as a whole.

**Support Group**

This group meets once a month and provides a forum for families to discuss issues that impact families touched by adoption and to build upon the adoption community.

**Learning Library**

The learning library housed at Family Connections Adoption Agency is an ever-expanding resource, which enables anyone in Stanislaus County an avenue to gain knowledge regarding adoption issues that impact individuals touched by adoption.

**Resource Book**

The resource book is a living document whose purpose is to provide an on-going guide to the community and national resources that could benefit individuals impacted by adoption.

**Web Page**

Our web page is accessed through the Stanislaus County webpage. This evolving resource gives the viewer an overview of what adoption services our agency provides.

**Adoptive Families Support Services**

This program provides a comprehensive service to families where the child's special needs require additional support or structure. A social worker case manages these cases, coordinates services, facilitates referrals to family decision meetings, and transitions families through the out-of-home care process. The goal of this area is either to maintain the child within the adoptive home, or successfully reunify the child with the family following graduation from a more structured environment.

The Community Services Agency is requesting the Board of Supervisors proclaim November as California Court Adoption and Permanency Month in Stanislaus County. The resolution will be presented to the President of the Foster Parents Association and/or an adoptive parent representative at the November 6, 2001 Board of Supervisors meeting.

RECOMMEND THE PROCLAMATION OF NOVEMBER 2001 AS CALIFORNIA COURT  
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POLICY

ISSUE:

Proclaiming November as California Court Adoption and Permanency Month honors the Adoptive Parents' contributions to the Board's priority of safe, healthy communities.

STAFFING

IMPACT:

None.

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Date: October 30, 2001

No. 2001-815

On motion of Supervisor Blom Seconded by Supervisor Mayfield  
and approved by the following vote,  
Ayes: Supervisors: Mayfield, Blom, Simon, and Chair Paul  
Noes: Supervisors: None  
Excused or Absent: Supervisors: Caruso  
Abstaining: Supervisor: None

Item: \*A-4

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED:

**PROCLAMATION OF NOVEMBER AS CALIFORNIA COURT ADOPTION AND  
PERMANENCY MONTH**

**WHEREAS**, the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors recognizes the essential value of belonging to a secure, loving, permanent family as every child's basic right; and

**WHEREAS**, recognizes the Stanislaus County Community Services Agency Social Service Staff who placed ninety-one (91) children in adoptive homes during the last year and exceeded the State target of sixty-six (66) adoptive placements for the fifth consecutive year; and


**WHEREAS**, wishes to honor the dedicated families who have opened their hearts and their homes to provide love and support for many of our community's children; and

**WHEREAS**, wishes to commend the network of committed social workers, community service providers and county agencies for their dedication and support of the families and the adopted children in their homes; and

**WHEREAS**, California Court Adoption and Permanency Month gives us a chance to honor the dedicated relatives, foster families, other adoptive families, social workers, and community partners who have worked together to ensure a better life for many of our county's children.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Stanislaus, State of California, does hereby proclaim November 2001 as **California Court Adoption and Permanency Month**.

ATTEST: CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN, Clerk  
Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors,  
State of California

  
By: Deputy

File No.