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

DEPT: Community Services Agency

BOARD AGENDA # *A-3e

Urgent Routine

AGENDA DATE April 23, 2013

CEO Concurs with Recommendation YES NO
(Information Attached)

4/5 Vote Required YES NO

SUBJECT:

Proclamation of the Month of May 2013 as Foster Care Awareness Month

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Proclaim the Month of May 2013 as Foster Care Awareness Month
2. Issue a Resolution to highlight the need for foster care awareness in Stanislaus County.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this agenda item.

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2013-163

On motion of Supervisor Withrow, Seconded by Supervisor Monteith

and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: O'Brien, Withrow, Monteith, De Martini and Chairman Chiesa

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

1) X Approved as recommended

2) _____ Denied

3) _____ Approved as amended

4) _____ Other:

MOTION:



ATTEST: CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN, Clerk

File No.

Proclamation of the Month of May 2013 as Foster Care Awareness Month

Page 2

DISCUSSION:

Historically, the Governor and the California Legislature have proclaimed May as Foster Care Awareness Month, calling attention to the special role that foster parents play in providing nurturing care to children who are separated from their birth families due to abuse, neglect, or exploitation.

In Stanislaus County, there are currently 85 foster homes licensed by the Stanislaus County Community Services Agency who are playing a vital role in serving children in this community. These foster parents and the Stanislaus County Foster Parent Association are committed to providing quality care to 56 children who, for a variety of reasons, cannot be with their parents or relatives. This is a very important and often challenging service.

Several Foster Family Agencies that are licensed by the State provide care for approximately 264 Stanislaus County dependent children, with Group Homes serving an additional 25 children.

In addition to the children placed in county and state licensed foster homes, approximately 240 children are placed with relatives/non-related extended family members or non-related legal guardians. These are individuals who have extended their hearts and homes to care for children who, for a variety of reasons, cannot be with their parents or legal caretakers.

The Stanislaus County Community Services Agency is honoring the contribution of foster parents and relative care givers with a Foster Parent and Relative Care Provider recognition event.

POLICY ISSUE:

Proclaiming May as Foster Care Awareness Month honors the Foster Parents' and Relative Care Providers' contributions to the Board's priorities of A Safe and A Healthy Community.

STAFFING ISSUE:

There is no staffing impact associated with this request.

CONTACT PERSON:

Kathryn M. Harwell, Director. Telephone: 558-2500

Proclamation of the Month of May 2013 as Foster Care Awareness Month

**Stanislaus County Board Of Supervisors
Proclaiming the Month of May 2013 as Foster Care Awareness Month**

WHEREAS, the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors is aware of the valuable service that the foster parents of this county give to physically and sexually abused, neglected and exploited foster children throughout the year; and

WHEREAS, the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors wishes to honor all the foster families and relative care providers within the county for their consistent commitment to children unable to remain in their own homes; and

WHEREAS, the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors wishes to acknowledge the parenting skills as well as the knowledge base regarding foster children, which are necessary to succeed in foster parenting; and

WHEREAS, the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors desires to bring to the attention of all citizens the importance of a professional foster family service system that includes recruitment, screening, licensing, training, and a professional partnership with the Community Services Agency; and

WHEREAS, the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors acknowledges the importance of community-wide support to continue this important part of the Child Welfare Services systems; and

WHEREAS, the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors joins with the California State Legislature and the Governor in commending foster parents and relative care providers for their service to children;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Stanislaus, State of California, does hereby proclaim **May 2013 as Stanislaus County Foster Care Awareness Month**.