

Background (continued)

This proclamation acknowledges the many successes of Public Health including:

- A 33% decline in the birthrate for teenage mothers (the lowest rate in 30 years);
- 81% of mothers initiating prenatal care in the first trimester (a 27% improvement since 1990);
- Delivery of required immunizations at kindergarten entry to over 90% of children;
- A 63% decline in the infant mortality rate since 1970; and
- A decrease in smoking prevalence (currently only 17% of the population smokes).

Riverside County Department of Public Health will continue its efforts in promoting and enhancing the quality of life for all community members.



Board of Supervisors

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE "NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH MONTH"

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the month of April 2003 has been declared National Public Health Month to increase awareness about public health and to promote a healthy living environment; and

WHEREAS, the theme of Public Health Month in the County of Riverside is "Getting In Shape For The Future – Healthy Eating and Active Living"

WHEREAS, public health promotes and encourages positive health behaviors including regular physical activity, making healthy food choices and smoking cessation in order to prevent chronic disease; and

WHEREAS, public health programs help to prevent epidemics and the spread of disease through immunizations and infectious disease control thereby improving the quality of life and avoiding unnecessary deaths; and

WHEREAS, public health programs prevent injuries through education on the importance of child safety seats, bicycle helmets and unintentional injuries by educating people on taking care of their health; and

WHEREAS, public health plans for and responds to disasters, bio-terrorism threats and assists communities in recovery; and

NOW, THEREFORE, let it be known that the Board of Supervisors of Riverside County, hereby proclaim the Month of April 2003 as

PUBLIC HEALTH MONTH

And encourages residents to be aware of the role
Riverside County Department of Public Health plays in
helping enhance the quality of life for all those in our community.

"Public Health Works"

ROBERT A. BUSTER
First District

JOHN F. TAVAGLIONE, Chairman
Second District

JAMES VENABLE
Third District

ROY WILSON
Fourth District

MARION ASHLEY
Fifth District

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