

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

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**FROM:** Community Health Agency

**SUBMITTAL DATE:** 9/19/03

**SUBJECT: National Child Health Month, October 2003**

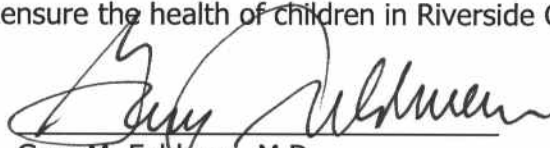
**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Board of Supervisors proclaim October, 2003 as National Child Health Month and endorse the strategies delineated in the Center for Disease Control by an Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP).

**BACKGROUND:** Each year, CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) reviews the recommended childhood immunization schedule to ensure that it is current with changes in manufacturers' vaccine formulations, revises recommendations for the use of licensed vaccines, and recommends newly licensed vaccines.

As a result, the number of children in the nation receiving immunizations remains at an all time high, with significant increases in the coverage rates for varicella (chickenpox) and pneumococcal conjugate vaccine, two of the most recent additions to the childhood immunization schedule. Key action steps that are essential to gaining optimal immunization coverage levels include:

- 1) Assess immunization levels of the population.
- 2) Monitor enforcement of school and child care immunization requirements.
- 3) Inform and educate the public about immunization practices.

These action steps present effective strategies for ensure the health of children in Riverside County.

  
 Gary M. Feldman, M.D.  
 Director

BAC:mis

**FINANCIAL DATA:**

CURRENT YEAR COST: \$ 0  
NET COUNTY COST: \$ 0

ANNUAL COST: \$ 0  
IN CURRENT BUDGET: N/A  
BUDGET ADJUSTMENT: N/A FOR FY: 02/03

**SOURCE OF FUNDS:** N/A

**C.E.O. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**APPROVE**

County Executive Officer Signature:



Department Recommendation:  Consent  Policy  
 Per Executive Office:  Consent  Policy

Prev.Agn.ref.

Dist.  
**AGENDA NO.**

## **National Child Health Month**

WHEREAS, The American Academy of Pediatrics has established Child Health Month and encourages families, teachers, family care physicians and pediatricians across the nation to teach children and adolescents about the importance of nutrition, immunizations, safety, and drug and alcohol prevention.

WHEREAS, the focus of this year's initiative is to promote the importance of immunizations for every child according to the schedule of periodicity.

WHEREAS, the purpose is to increase public awareness of the value of preventive health care regarding good health and timely childhood immunizations.

WHEREAS, the goal is to achieve and maintain effective vaccination coverage levels for universally recommended vaccines among young children.

WHEREAS, The Center for Disease Control advocates increasing the proportion of providers who have measured the vaccination coverage levels among children in their practice population within the past 2 years.

WHEREAS, in 2002, approximately 69 million children and adolescents aged less than 18 years lived in the United States; by 2020, the number is expected to increase to 78 million (1).

WHEREAS, all children born in the United States (11,000 per day) should be receiving 12 to 16 doses of vaccine by age 2 years to be protected against 10 vaccine-preventable childhood diseases.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE KNOWN that the RIVERSIDE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS hereby proclaim October, 2003 as Child Health Month and urge all who reside in Riverside County to take responsibility for increasing awareness among parents and medical providers about the importance of timely childhood immunizations.