

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

832 A



FROM: Department of Public Social Services

SUBMITTAL DATE:
11/20/07

SUBJECT: National Adoption Awareness Month

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors proclaim November 2007 to be National Adoption Awareness Month.

BACKGROUND:

Departmental Concurrence

Each year, November is recognized as National Adoption Awareness Month. While all adoptions are recognized, the particular focus of the month is the adoption of children currently in foster care. National Adoption Week was proclaimed in Massachusetts in 1976. The number of states designating a special week to the practice of adoption gradually increased, leading to the proclamation of National Adoption Awareness Month in 1990.

(CONTINUED 2 Pages)

Susan Loew

Susan Loew, Director

FINANCIAL DATA	Current F.Y. Total Cost:	\$ 0	In Current Year Budget:	N/A
	Current F.Y. Net County Cost:	\$ 0	Budget Adjustment:	N/A
	Annual Net County Cost:	\$ 0	For Fiscal Year:	06/07

SOURCE OF FUNDS: N/A	Positions To Be Deleted Per A-30	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Requires 4/5 Vote	<input type="checkbox"/>

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION: APPROVE

BY: *Debra Cournoyer*
Debra Cournoyer

County Executive Office Signature

Dept't Recomm.: Consent Policy
 Per Exec. Ofc.: Consent Policy

FROM: Department of Public Social Services

DATE: 10/29/07

SUBJECT: National Adoption Awareness Month

PAGE: 2

BACKGROUND CONTINUED:

From January 2006 through December 2006, a total of 567 adoptions were finalized through Riverside County Children's Services. Additionally, of all children who were adopted 34.4% were adopted within 24 months of removal from the home. This is above the state average of 32.2%. However, despite efforts to ensure children do not linger in foster care and that they receive families they may call their own as quickly as possible, there are still children who remain in foster care awaiting permanent adoptive homes.

Each year, the President leads the national effort to raise awareness with a Presidential Proclamation designating November as a month to celebrate adoptive families and bring awareness to the many children awaiting permanent loving families.

This proclamation serves to commend Riverside County adoptive parents for their significant contributions to strengthening and improving our families and communities. It also provides awareness to those children still awaiting permanent adoptive homes and the need for the people of Riverside County to assist in efforts to decrease the number of children waiting to be adopted.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: There is no fiscal impact associated with this proclamation.

CONCUR/EXECUTE: N/A

SL/ko

**National Adoption Awareness Month
November 2007**

WHEREAS, protecting and nurturing children are of utmost concern to all of Riverside County. We have the privilege and responsibility to provide every child in Riverside County with a safe, permanent home, nurtured by stable families; and

WHEREAS, we are indebted to those adoptive parents who offer permanent loving homes when children are unable to return to their biological parents; and

WHEREAS, the decision to adopt is a lifelong commitment and often requires particular compassion to issues related to abuse and neglect. Through love, compassion and dedication, these adopted children are afforded the best opportunity for future success; and

WHEREAS, adoptive parents are commended for their dedication to providing these children with love, self worth and encouragement; and

WHEREAS, Riverside County Children's Services is committed to securing loving and stable homes for children in need;

WHEREAS, November has been designated to commend adoptive parents and raise awareness to their significant contributions.

NOW THEREFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, in recognition of the tireless efforts of adoptive parents and in awareness of the many children who desperately need permanent families of their own, does hereby proclaim the month of November, 2007 as

NATIONAL ADOPTION AWARENESS MONTH and encourage the citizens of Riverside County to join in the celebration and support of adoptive families, and assist us in finding homes for the children waiting to be adopted.

BOB BUSTER
First District

JEFF STONE
Third District

JOHN F. TAVAGLIONE
Second District, Chairman

ROY WILSON
Fourth District, Vice-Chairman

MARION ASHLEY
Fifth District