

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

142A



FROM: Department of Public Social Services

SUBMITTAL DATE:
11/04/08

SUBJECT: National Adoption Awareness Month

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors proclaim November 2008 to be National Adoption Awareness Month.

BACKGROUND:

Each year, November is recognized as National Adoption Awareness Month to celebrate adoptive families and bring awareness to the many children awaiting permanent loving families.

From January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007, 673 children were adopted and have been connected to permanent families through Riverside County Children's Services.

Children deserve to be raised in loving families with parents who protect and nurture them. For many children in the Children's Services system, adoption is their best chance for a healthy and happy life.

Patricia Reynolds
Patricia Reynolds, Assistant 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:	N/A

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

Prev. Agn. Ref.: 11/20/07 (2.17) | **District:** ALL | **Agenda Number:**

2.12

FROM: Department of Public Social Services

DATE: 11/04/08

SUBJECT: National Adoption Awareness Month

PAGE: 2

BACKGROUND CONTINUED:

National and state goals set the standard to improve outcomes for children in foster care and whenever possible, to reconnect children with their own families. If that is not appropriate for the child's safety and stability, DPSS matches them with a permanent adoptive family as quickly as possible. One way success is measured is by the number of children adopted within 24 months of removal from their biological home.

In Riverside County, out of all the children who were adopted, 34.4% were adopted within 24 months of removal from the home. This is above the state average of 31.2%. However, despite our efforts to ensure children do not linger in foster care and that they receive families whom they may call their own, as quickly as possible, there are still children who remain in foster care awaiting permanent adoptive homes.

Currently in Riverside County there are 89 children who are available for adoption and are not currently matched with an adoptive home.

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 about 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/cg

**National Adoption Awareness Month
November 2008**

WHEREAS, protecting and nurturing children is of utmost concern to all of Riverside County.

WHEREAS, 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 to children who 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; and

WHEREAS, 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;

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 need permanent families of their own, does hereby proclaim the month of November, 2008 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, Vice-Chairman

JOHN F. TAVAGLIONE
Second District

ROY WILSON
Fourth District, Chairman

MARION ASHLEY
Fifth District