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



**FROM:** Department of Public Social Services

**SUBMITTAL DATE:**  
May 03, 2011

**SUBJECT:** Proclamation declaring the month of May 2011 to be Foster Care Awareness Month

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Board of Supervisors proclaim May 2011 as Foster Care Awareness Month in the County of Riverside and approve the attached proclamation.

**BACKGROUND:**

In Riverside County, there are over 3,916 children and youth in foster care being provided with a safe, secure and stable home through foster families. These families offer their homes and love in caring for children, whose families are in crisis. The support, compassion, and nurturing provided by our foster families help children in their healing process.

(CONTINUED – 2 pages)

*Susan Loew*

Susan Loew, Director

**FINANCIAL DATA**

Current F.Y. Total Cost:	\$ 0	In Current Year Budget:	Yes
Current F.Y. Net County Cost:	\$ 0	Budget Adjustment:	No
Annual Net County Cost:	\$ 0	For Fiscal Year:	10/11

**SOURCE OF FUNDS:**

Federal Funding: 0% State Funding: 0%; County Funding: 0%; Realignment Funding: 0%; Other Funding: 0%

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**

- Dep't Recomm.:  Consent
- Per Exec. Ofc.:  Consent
- Policy
- Policy

Prev. Agn. Ref.: 05/18/10, Item # 2.24 District: All Agenda Number:

2.16

County Purchasing Department

Departmental Concurrence

County Counsel

**FROM:** Department of Public Social Services

**DATE:** May 03, 2011

**SUBJECT:** Proclamation declaring the month of May  
to be Foster Care Awareness Month

**PAGE:** 2

**BACKGROUND (cont'd):**

In Riverside County there are currently 670 licensed foster care homes, 768 relative and non-relative extended family members (NREFM) and 75 group home organizations serving over 3,916 children. These homes provide safe, stable and nurturing environments to children until they can be reunited with their biological parents or placed in a permanent home. With guidance from supportive adults, foster children do overcome the trauma of previous abuse and neglect. Without these permanent connections, former foster children are far more likely to endure homelessness, poverty, compromised health, unemployment, incarceration and other adversities after they leave the foster care system.

Foster care families are helping to build a brighter future for the children and youth they serve. By proclaiming May 2011 to be Foster Care Awareness Month in the County of Riverside, the Board of Supervisors continues a tradition of commitment and support for extraordinary efforts of foster care families serving the communities in our county.

**ATTACHMENT:** Foster Care Awareness Month Proclamation

SL:ep

**Foster Care Awareness Month**

**May 2011**

WHEREAS, the family, serving as the primary source of love, identity, self-esteem and support, is the very foundation of our communities and our State, and

WHEREAS, in Riverside County there are 3,916 children and youth in foster care being provided with a safe, secure and stable home along with the compassion and nurture of a foster family, and

WHEREAS, all young people in foster care need a meaningful connection to a caring adult who becomes a supportive and lasting presence in their lives, and

WHEREAS, foster, kinship and adoptive families, who open their homes and hearts and support children whose families are in crisis, play a vital role in helping children and families heal and reconnect, thereby assisting young people to transition successfully into adulthood, and

WHEREAS, dedicated foster families frequently adopt foster children, resulting in a greater need for more foster families, and

WHEREAS, there are numerous individuals and public and private organizations who work to increase public awareness of the needs of children in and leaving foster care, and

WHEREAS the enduring and valuable contribution of foster parents, and the foster care "system" is only as good as those who choose to be part of it;

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE KNOWN THAT, THE RIVERSIDE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, do hereby proclaim May 2011 as FOSTER CARE MONTH and urge all citizens to serve an active role in making a difference in the lives of children and youth in foster care.

\_\_\_\_\_  
BOB BUSTER  
First District, Chairman

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JOHN F. TAVAGLIONE  
Second District, Vice-Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
JEFF STONE  
Third District

\_\_\_\_\_  
JOHN J. BENOIT  
Fourth District

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MARION ASHLEY  
Fifth District