

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

607 A



FROM: Department of Public Social Services

SUBMITTAL DATE:
May 01, 2012

SUBJECT: Proclamation declaring the month of May 2012 to be Foster Care Awareness Month

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors proclaim May 2012 as Foster Care Awareness Month in the County of Riverside and approve the attached proclamation.

BACKGROUND:

In Riverside County, there are 3,765 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:	11/12

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

- Policy
- Policy
- Consent
- Consent

Dep't Recomm.:
Per Exec. Ofc.:

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PAGE: 2

BACKGROUND (cont'd):

In Riverside County there are currently 295 licensed foster care homes, 1217 relative and non-relative extended family members (NREFM), 65 Foster Family Agencies, and 46 group home organizations serving 3,765 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 2012 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:ko

Foster Care Awareness Month

May 2012

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 3,765 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 2012 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

JOHN F. TAVAGLIONE
Second District, Chairman

JEFF STONE
Third District

JOHN J. BENOIT
Fourth District, Vice Chairman

MARION ASHLEY
Fifth District