

PROCLAMATION

OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

WHEREAS, every child and youth deserves to grow up in a loving, nurturing, permanent family; and

WHEREAS, Adoption Awareness Month works to increase awareness and bring attention to the need for permanent families for children and youth in the foster care system; and

WHEREAS, securing lifelong nurturing connections for children and youth in foster care, both legally and emotionally, is critical in determining their future achievement, health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, adoptive parents can provide stable, loving families and a safe and comforting place for children and youth in need; and

WHEREAS, the Humboldt County Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS), Arcata Regional Adoption Office of the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) and Adoption Horizons, through their collaboration, acknowledge and place great importance on keeping adopted children and youth with their siblings whenever possible, and on keeping them connected to their birth family, community, tribes and culture; and

WHEREAS, DHHS, in partnership with federally recognized tribes, welcomes the incorporation of cultural responsiveness and local tribal values when facilitating Tribal Customary Adoptions; and

WHEREAS, approximately 236 Humboldt County children and youth are currently placed in foster care and some of these children and youth will need permanent adoptive homes. Research shows improved outcomes for children and youth provided with the stability and permanency that adoption offers; and

WHEREAS, DHHS has a need for homes for children and youth in the foster care system, including adoptive and permanent caregivers willing to support sibling groups, older children and teens; and

WHEREAS, DHHS, CDSS, and Adoption Horizons partner to provide on-going assistance and support to families who are waiting to adopt children and youth and to families who have completed adoptions, by providing these families with guidance, education and support.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors hereby recognizes November 2022 as Adoption Awareness Month and urges its citizens to celebrate and support the diversity and richness of our adoptive families who provide these special children and youth a place to call home.

DATED: November 8, 2022

Virginia Bass, Chair

