

PROCLAIMING
NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVER MONTH
"FAMILY CAREGIVERS MATTER!"
NOVEMBER 2012

WHEREAS, November is recognized as National Family Caregiver Month, a time for the entire country to acknowledge the enormous contributions of informal caregivers (family and friends) to one another and to the nation. The national theme this year is *"FAMILY CAREGIVERS MATTER!"*; and

WHEREAS, November is also recognized as National Homecare and Hospice Month, a time for the nation to honor and highlight the benefits of being cared for in your own home; and

WHEREAS, over 6 million Californians provide informal care for a family member or friend with a long-term illness or disability; and

WHEREAS, California is home to the largest direct care workforce in the country consisting of over ½ million workers; and

WHEREAS, informal family caregivers experience considerable stress, physical and emotional burdens, and financial strain from their caregiving responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, all caregivers need information, education, support, respite, and flexible, reduced or alternative work arrangements to better manage their caregiving responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, the services and support provided by community organizations and county government to Marin County caregivers is vital to maintaining and strengthening families and preserving the dignity of all Marin County residents who are elderly, blind, disabled, or ill; and

WHEREAS, the County of Marin allows almost 1,600 low income residents who are elderly, blind, and disabled to live safely and independently in their homes by funding the In-Home Supportive Services program and the work of 1,300 IHSS caregivers, 70% of whom are family members; and

WHEREAS, the Alzheimer's Association, as part of the Family Caregiver Support Program (FCSP) Collaborative of Marin County, partially funded by Marin Health and Human Service Agency Division of Aging and Adult Services, presented *"Caregivers Sharing Experiences: If I Knew Then What I Know Now"* on November 1, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the Marin Home Care Collective Education Committee in partnership with the IHSS Public Authority of Marin will present *"Compassion Fatigue, Caring for the Caregiver, Finding the Right Balance"* on November 7, 2012, at Hospice by the Bay; and

WHEREAS, Marin County celebrates the contributions that all caregivers, paid or unpaid, make in our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin hereby proclaims the month of November 2012, as "Family Caregiver Month."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Marin County Board of Supervisors encourages all residents to recognize and support the contributions of all caregivers who give their time, patience, care and support to their families, friends and the entire community.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin held this 6th day of November 2012.