

RESOLUTION
of
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MARIN COUNTY

PROCLAIMING
PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK
APRIL 1 - 7, 2013

WHEREAS, the week of April 1-7, 2013, is National Public Health Week, and the theme is "Public Health is ROI: Save Lives, Save Money"; and

WHEREAS, as in the business world, ROI stands for the return on investment that the support of evidence-based public health programs pays in the form of healthier communities and in reduced health care costs; and

WHEREAS, throughout history, public health has played a critical role in realizing those returns on investments by keeping people healthy, improving life expectancy and reducing demand for acute care services through advances such as water fluoridation, seat belt laws, immunizations, anti-tobacco legislation, healthy food policies in schools, food safety laws and enforcement, and illness and injury prevention programs; and

WHEREAS, preventable chronic diseases such as heart disease, cancer, and diabetes are responsible for millions of premature deaths each year and cause Americans to miss 2.5 billion days of work annually at a cost of more than \$1 trillion; and

WHEREAS, in the last two decades California's tobacco control program reduced health care costs by \$134 billion, vastly exceeding the \$2.4 billion spent on the program; and

WHEREAS, several California programs offering treatment programs in lieu of incarceration to people who were repeatedly jailed for drunkenness realized cost savings of around 150% of program costs; and

WHEREAS, if 90% of U.S. women were able to follow the recommendation to feed their babies only breast milk for their first six months, the lives of nearly 900 babies would be saved each year, along with \$13 billion; and

WHEREAS, each dollar invested in targeted tuberculosis screening and prevention programs, such as those in place in Marin, saves \$2 to \$3 in costs related to advanced disease; and

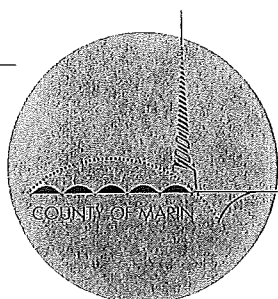
WHEREAS, our Department of Health and Human Services ensures the health, well-being and safety of Marin County residents using a variety of strategies ranging from policy development to convening community coalitions to implementing individually-focused health promotion programs, in order to strengthen collaboration and action on prevention work across all of our services and programs; and

WHEREAS, Department of Health and Human Services programs actively seek to increase the return on our investment by providing local jurisdictions with assistance in enacting tobacco prevention policies, by adopting a Serial Inebriates program to promote treatment over incarceration, by providing breastfeeding peer counselors to new mothers, and by promoting screening and treatment of latent tuberculosis to prevent the spread of disease, to name just a few examples.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin hereby proclaims the week of April 1-7, 2013 as "Public Health Week" and calls upon the people of Marin County to observe this week by helping our families, friends, neighbors, co-workers and leaders better understand the value of public health and to help us all realize a high return on our investment by supporting policies that promote healthy lifestyle habits in light of this year's theme, "Public Health is ROI: Saves Lives, Save Money."

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin held this 26th day of March 2013.

JUDY ARNOLD - DISTRICT 5, PRESIDENT



SUSAN L. ADAMS - SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT 1