

**RECOGNIZING
MARIN AIDS PROJECT
FOR 25 YEARS OF SERVICE TO MARIN COUNTY**

WHEREAS, in 1984 a group of compassionate volunteers formed the Marin AIDS Support Network, reaching out to all those in Marin who were struggling with the devastating impact of the AIDS epidemic, and offering support for those who were dying and providing support for their families and loved ones; and

WHEREAS, Marin AIDS Support Network grew, adding professional staff and services and changing its name to Marin AIDS Project; and

WHEREAS, Marin AIDS Project has continued to provide direct care, prevention, education, harm reduction and support services for 25 years reaching thousands of people in the County each year; and

WHEREAS, Marin AIDS Project recognized the urgent need to address the silent Hepatitis C epidemic and introduced a program in 2001 to educate and support those living with and at risk for Hepatitis C; and

WHEREAS, Marin AIDS Project is dedicated to preventing the spread of HIV/AIDS in all age and risk groups. Marin AIDS Project has formed the Reach Program, a teen peer education program now in its twentieth year of providing classroom prevention/education and condom access. The Marin AIDS Project also operates the Point Program, the only needle exchange program in the County; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the changing character of the AIDS epidemic, Marin AIDS Project has expanded its scope of services to help not only those who are acutely ill, but also those who are living with a chronic illness. The Marin AIDS Project addresses the mental health and substance abuse issues of those who are HIV positive, helps those who are struggling with poverty level disability incomes find housing and address emergency needs and supports those who are working to reconnect with the community and with life; and

WHEREAS, Marin AIDS Project remains fiercely committed to advocating for all those in the County living with and affected by HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis C.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Marin County Board of Supervisors recognizes Marin AIDS Project on the occasion of its 25th anniversary of providing care, prevention, education, harm reduction and support services to the people of Marin County.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin held this 9th day of February 2010.