

*Before the Board of Supervisors in and for the  
County of Monterey, State of California*

**Resolution No.:**

Adopt a resolution proclaiming the month of August 2022 as “**Community Health Worker (CHW) Appreciation Month**” in Monterey County, which honors and thanks CHWs who create bridges between health and social service providers and community members which has been particularly vital during the COVID-19 pandemic, and recognizes the role CHWs play as a professional workforce in the delivery of health and social services among our communities.

**WHEREAS**, we recognize reaching at-risk, under resourced or underserved communities is vital to improving the health of our County’s communities experiencing the greatest health inequities; and

**WHEREAS**, Community Health Workers (CHWs) are individuals with strong ties to and shared experiences with the communities they serve; and

**WHEREAS**, because CHWs often represent communities that are more likely to be underrepresented in the professional health care workforce, their community efforts can help foster trust and connection between community members and critical health and social services and to help these services be more attuned to the experiences of the communities they serve;

**WHEREAS**, CHWs have historically been employed by community-based organizations and social agencies, although they are increasingly being used in clinical settings, such as federally qualified health centers (FQHCs), health departments, and hospitals; and

**WHEREAS**, CHWs provide a variety of services, from listening to addressing needs; serving as advocates, educators, connectors, and change makers; and bridging the gap between residents and health and social services system; and

**WHEREAS**, it has been found that when used as part of chronic care management interventions, such as blood pressure and diabetes education, CHWs can help improve disease control and reduce mental health symptoms such as depression and substance use disorder; and

**WHEREAS**, several studies have found that interventions involving CHWs helped to improve health outcomes among racial and ethnic minorities and also lead to fewer hospitalizations, hospital readmissions, and emergency department visits, and reduced healthcare costs; and

**WHEREAS**, during the COVID-19 pandemic, CHWs in Monterey County were at the forefront of response, conducting outreach and educating community members on prevention measures, helping them to safely isolate and access social services, conducting COVID-19 testing and

connecting people to treatment resources, and extensively supporting community-focused vaccine education, registration, and clinic efforts; and

**WHEREAS**, in Monterey County, Virus Integrated Distribution of Aid (VIDA) CHW efforts, as a local example of CHW impacts, have reached tens of thousands of residents, helped hundreds to safely isolate, and contributed to vaccination rates of up to 100% in some of our ZIP Codes with historic health inequities; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey on behalf of the County and all residents thereof, does hereby proclaim the month of August 2022 as **Monterey County Community Health Worker Appreciation Month**, during this month honors and thanks CHWs who create bridges between health and social service providers and community members which has been particularly vital during the COVID-19 pandemic and recognizes the role CHWs play as a professional workforce in the delivery of health and social services among our communities. Their work has saved lives and contributed to Monterey County recovering from the pandemic.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022 upon motion of Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_, by the following vote, to-wit:

**AYES:**

**NOES:**

**ABSENT:**

**ABSTAIN:**

I, Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, State of California, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an original order of said Board Supervisors duly made and entered in the minutes thereof of Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, for the meeting on \_\_\_\_\_.

Dated:

Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
County of Monterey, State of California.

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy