

RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 25-227

Adopt a resolution honoring Ventures in celebration of National)
Financial Freedom Day, July 1, 2025......

WHEREAS, National Financial Freedom Day, observed annually on July 1st, celebrates the principles of economic empowerment, financial independence, and equitable opportunity for all individuals to thrive regardless of background or circumstance; and

WHEREAS, the Equal Credit Opportunity Act of 1974 (ECOA) serves as a foundational legal safeguard, prohibiting credit discrimination based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, age, or receipt of public assistance—reinforcing that economic opportunity must be inclusive and accessible to every American; and

WHEREAS, Ventures is proudly celebrating 35 years of bold, intentional work to create a shared and prosperous economic future in which one's zip code, race, gender, or immigration status does not dictate income or wealth; and

WHEREAS, Ventures has remained steadfast in advancing solutions, economic and political knowledge, community power, and mutual prosperity, creating pathways to economic freedom for individuals historically excluded from financial systems and resources; and

WHEREAS, at the core of Ventures' mission is a deep and unwavering commitment to honoring community members' dignity, self-determination, and lived experience, ensuring that their voices are uplifted in the design and delivery of programs and services; and

WHEREAS, Ventures' work is explicit and intentional in centering racial and gender equity, dismantling systemic barriers and reshaping the narrative of financial empowerment through justice-focused programming; and

WHEREAS, since July 2024, Ventures' impact in Monterey County has included serving 440 individuals through the *Familias Con Más program*, offering 244 personalized one-on-one financial coaching sessions, delivering 20 online "Financial Fit" workshops, and providing a vital financial safety net to 60 families through the Λlas program.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Monterey Board of Supervisors on behalf of all the County and its residents thereof, hereby recognizes Ventures for its decades-long commitment to equitable financial empowerment and celebrates its legacy and ongoing impact in advancing economic justice in alignment with the values of National Financial Freedom Day, July 1, 2025.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 1st day of July 2025

Chair Supervisor Chris Lopez

Vice Chair Supervisor Wendy Root Askew

Supervisor Glenn Church

Supervisor Luis A. Alejo

Supervisor Kate Daniels