

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

Resolution No.

Adopt a Resolution recognizing **First 5 Monterey**)
County for 15 years of work on behalf of children.....)

Whereas, voters in California affirmed their support for a guaranteed revenue stream dedicated to the state's youngest children and passed Proposition 10, the California Children and Families First Act on November 3, 1998 and **First 5 Monterey County** was established by the Monterey County Board of Supervisors on December 8, 1998; and

Whereas, the statewide program is now known as First 5 due to the tremendous importance of the first five years of a child's life, when 90% of brain development occurs; and

Whereas, First 5 Commissions across the state are charged with responding to local needs and investing in local solutions to improve the lives of young children from the prenatal stage through age 5; and

Whereas, the value of early childhood investments has been well-documented for individuals and for society in the form of better health outcomes, higher economic productivity, and reduced spending on foster care, special education, and crime; and

Whereas, over the last 15 years, **First 5 Monterey County** has invested more than \$81 million and supported more than 400,000 community members to create effective and essential services that help Monterey County's youngest residents grow up healthy, nurtured, and ready to succeed. These investments have improved the odds for children and families who would otherwise not have access to supports and services by:

- Providing quality parent education supports, such as playgroups, home visits and parenting education group meetings;
- Improving the quality of child care for children in Monterey County;
- Providing quality, comprehensive services for children with special needs in an area of the county that traditionally had few services;
- Providing quality supports for children and families that have been exposed to alcohol, drugs and other trauma;
- Participating in countywide partnerships and collaborations to address the opportunity gaps that exist in our county -- including the Governance Council, 2-1-1, Building Healthy Communities, the Childcare Planning Council, and the Monterey County Children's Council;
- Providing countywide training to develop knowledge and skills to support infant family early childhood mental health and playgroups;

- Leveraging additional state, federal and foundation dollars to increase local investment in early childhood services;
- Co-chairing the Children's Council's Early Childhood Development Initiative designed to bring increased focus and support to address the early childhood development gaps that still exist in the county; and

Whereas, this unprecedented investment in California’s youngest children – and in its future – has made First 5 the most significant and effective funder of early childhood development programs in the state. But with one in four children living in poverty in Monterey County, there is still much work to do; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Monterey County Board of Supervisors recognizes the critical importance of placing children at the core of our plans, at the heart of our purpose and the top of our agenda; and shares both appreciation and support for the work of *First 5 Monterey County* in its continued efforts to provide our children with solid foundations and strong futures by partnering with elected officials, county leaders, providers and families to create a community where all children have every opportunity to thrive.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 22nd day of April 2014, upon motion of Supervisor _____, seconded by Supervisor _____, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

I, Gail T. Borkowski, 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 of Supervisors duly made and entered in the minutes thereof of Minute Book ___ for the meeting on April 22, 2014.

Dated:

Gail T. Borkowski, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, County of Monterey, State of California

By: _____, Deputy