



Proclamation

OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF EL DORADO

Recognizing August 2021 as Breastfeeding Awareness Month

WHEREAS, human milk provides the ideal balance of nutrients for an infant's growth and development; reduces the risk of infectious and chronic disease; protects mothers' and infants' health; and may reduce the risk of childhood obesity; and

WHEREAS, University of California research published in the May 8, 2017, issue of the *Journal of the American Medical Association Pediatrics*, shows breast milk contributes one-third of the beneficial bacteria to the infant microbiome, laying the foundation for lifelong health; and

WHEREAS, the El Dorado County Health and Human Services Agency Public Health Division Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program promotes and supports breastfeeding as the norm for infants up to age one year and beyond, based on guidelines from the American Academy of Pediatrics and the World Health Organization; and

WHEREAS, one of the Healthy People 2030 national breastfeeding objectives is to increase the proportion of infants who are breastfed exclusively through age 6 months to 42.4 percent. The Centers for Disease Control's (CDC) 2018-2019 National Immunization Survey found that the rate for infants who are breastfed exclusively through age 6 months has increased to 25.6 percent of infants born in 2017 from the 2015 baseline of 24.9 percent; and

WHEREAS, currently, 26.9 percent of infants age 6 months enrolled in El Dorado County WIC are breastfed exclusively, which exceeds the CDC's 2018-2019 National Immunization Survey; and

WHEREAS, El Dorado County Public Health joins professional health organizations and breastfeeding advocates worldwide celebrating World Breastfeeding Week on August 1-7 each year to raise awareness of the benefits of breastfeeding and further promote strategies to protect optimal breastfeeding practices and encourage increased breastfeeding rates.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of El Dorado does hereby designate the month of August 2021 as "Breastfeeding Awareness Month" and calls upon government agencies, hospitals, health care providers and other community partners to increase public awareness of the health benefits and importance of supporting mothers who want to breastfeed.

Passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of El Dorado at a regular meeting of the Board, held the 24th day of August, 2021.

Attest:

Kim Dawson

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: Kyra Schaufenley

Deputy Clerk

John Hidahl
John Hidahl, Chair, Board of Supervisors