

**Yolo County
Board of Supervisors**

Resolution No. 24-35

Declaring March 2024 as National Social Work Month

WHEREAS, Social Work is a profession truly dedicated to helping people; and

WHEREAS, the primary mission of Social Work is to enhance human well-being and help meet the basic and complex needs of all people; and

WHEREAS, Social Workers put a particular focus on helping people who are vulnerable, oppressed, or living in poverty; and

WHEREAS, Social Workers follow a Code of Ethics that calls on them to fight social injustice, and respect the dignity and worth of all people; and

WHEREAS, Social Workers meet people where they are and help people and communities reach their full potential; the Social Work profession for more than a century has worked to improve this society, with Social Workers playing a role in establishing a minimum wage, Social Security, and Medicare; and

WHEREAS, Social Workers have helped this nation live up to its values by advocating for equal rights for all, including people of color, people who are Indigenous, people who LBGQTQIA2S+, or people who follow various faiths; and

WHEREAS, Social Workers work in all facets of our society, including schools, hospitals, community organizations, the military, mental health centers, social service agencies, corporations, and local, state, and federal government; and

WHEREAS, Social Workers are on the frontlines in helping this nation solve pressing social problems, including an increased demand for mental health services, an opioid addiction crisis, economic inequality, and rampant housing instability; and

WHEREAS, Social Workers are in high demand, with some states reporting shortages in Social Work staffing and the Bureau of Labor Statistics predicting Social Work will be one of the fastest growing professions during this decade; and

WHEREAS, a public opinion survey from Ipsos said Social Work has a public approval rating of more than 80 percent and more than half of Americans say Social Workers deserve higher pay; and

WHEREAS, Social Workers in Yolo County employed by the Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency and partnered agencies provide a wide array of crisis and clinical services to: protect children and vulnerable adults; support families; ensure adequate medical care and mental health treatment; provide financial assistance; assist individuals with obtaining employment and housing; and to live dignified, independent, and financially sustainable lives; and

WHEREAS, the 2024 Social Work Month theme, “Empowering Social Workers” embodies the need for society to support Social Workers so they can continue to do the life-affirming work they do and help address societal needs; and

WHEREAS, Social Workers in turn empower people, communities, and our nation, helping everyone achieve their full potential.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Yolo County Board of Supervisors hereby recognizes the numerous contributions made by the Social Workers of America – and especially those in Yolo County – and calls upon all citizens to celebrate and support the Social Work Profession by declaring March 2024 as National Social Work Month.

AYES: Vixie Sandy, Provenza, Barajas, Villegas, Frerichs.

Lucas Frerichs, Chair
Yolo County Board of Supervisors