

**Yolo County
Board of Supervisors**

Resolution No. 24-147

Proclaiming November 2024 as Family Literacy Awareness Month

WHEREAS, Yolo County has a tradition of commitment to literacy and lifelong learning; Yolo County Library invites you to celebrate National Family Literacy month; and

WHEREAS, literacy is a set of skills that includes speaking, listening, reading, writing, and critical thinking, whose mastery enables individuals to contribute to our economy, democracy, and community; and

WHEREAS, adult learners are our co-workers, neighbors, friends, and family members; and

WHEREAS, over 35,000 of our Yolo County residents, or one in six adults, cannot read or write sufficiently to carry out everyday activities; and

WHEREAS, Yolo Reads, the Yolo County Library literacy program, offers free one-on-one tutoring and ESL classes for local residents. During FY 2023-24, Yolo Reads volunteer tutors provided 2,314 hours of free literacy instruction to 137 Yolo County adult learners to help them improve their reading, writing, spelling, math, and grammar skills; and

WHEREAS, Yolo County Library literacy services now includes basic life-skills ESL classes for rural Spanish-speaking residents with classes at public libraries in Knights Landing, Winters, and Esparto; and

WHEREAS, Yolo Reads adult learners completed over 315 goals they set, including preparing for their citizenship test; gaining full-time employment; and helping their children in school during FY 2023-24; and

WHEREAS, Library staff noted, *"One of Sandra's goals is to practice communication skills to advocate for her children's education. Sandra's children have inspired and motivated her perseverance in learning to read and write proficiently. During our family literacy workshops, Sandra shared the importance of setting goals. Sandra says she now has the confidence to find the resources at the library to help meet her goals."*; and

WHEREAS, Yolo Reads is a community of lifelong learners who, along with their families and tutors, are building a better future and coming together to celebrate their achievements each November.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Yolo County Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims November 2024 as Family Literacy Awareness Month.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 5th day of November 2024 by the following vote:

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

Lucas Frerichs, Chair
Yolo County Board of Supervisors