



County of Sonoma

State of California

Date: August 6, 2019

Item Number: _____
Resolution Number: _____

4/5 Vote Required

**Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Sonoma, State of California,
Proclaiming the Week of August 4 to August 10, 2019 as
National Health Center Week in Sonoma County**

Whereas, for over 50 years, America's community health centers have provided high quality, cost effective, and accessible primary and preventative care regardless of ability to pay;

Whereas, every day community health centers are developing new approaches to integrate a wide range of services beyond primary care, including oral health, behavioral health, and pharmacy services, to meet the needs and challenges of our community;

Whereas, health centers are located in medically underserved areas and are locally controlled by patient-majority boards, making each health center responsive to the needs of the specific community it serves;

Whereas, health centers across the nation reduce overall costs of care by managing chronic conditions and keeping patients out of costlier health care settings;

Whereas, Sonoma County health centers include Alexander Valley Healthcare, Alliance Medical Center, Jewish Community Free Clinic, Petaluma Health Center, Sonoma County Indian Health Project, Sonoma Valley Community Health Center, Santa Rosa Community Health, St. Joseph Health, and West County Health Centers, serving 126,692 patients at over twenty delivery sites—including over 401,000 visits each year for medical care, over 128,000 visits for dental care, and over 53,000 visits from patients who receive mental health care;

Whereas, community health centers in Sonoma County, as well as across the nation, are one of the pillars of the health system locally and nationally;

Whereas, community health centers in Sonoma County responded immediately in the early morning hours of October 8, 2017 to care for evacuees during the 2017 firestorms and staffed clinics in the shelters for the duration of the fires;

Whereas, community health centers in Sonoma County provided vision, leadership, and participation in the Sonoma Community Resilience Collaborative to address the trauma resulting from the North Bay wildfires by developing local capacity for healing and preventing the progression of stress and trauma toward the goal of a strong and resilient community;

Whereas, community health centers in Sonoma County address the complex health care needs of those who are currently homeless and those at risk of homelessness and play a vital role in helping to pull people out of homelessness and keep others housed; and

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Whereas, National Health Center Week offers the opportunity to recognize America's health centers, their dedicated staff, board members, and all those responsible for the continued success and growth of the program since its creation over 50 years ago.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors proclaims the week of August 4 to August 10, 2019 as National Health Center Week in Sonoma County and encourages Sonoma County residents to celebrate the important partnership between Sonoma County's Health Centers and the communities they serve.

Supervisors:

Gorin:	Zane:	Gore:	Hopkins:	Rabbitt:
Ayes:	Noes:	Absent:	Abstain:	

So Ordered.