

**MEMORANDUM
PLACER COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Administration**

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Jeffrey S. Brown, M.P.H., M.S.W., Director of Health and Human Services
Graham Knaus, Assistant Director of Health and Human Services

DATE: March 24, 2015

SUBJECT: Commendation Honoring Graham Knaus, MPA, Health and Human Services Department,
Assistant Director, for Outstanding Service to Placer County.

ACTION REQUESTED:

1. Approve a Commendation honoring Graham Knaus, MPA, Health and Human Services Department, Assistant Director, for outstanding service to Placer County.

BACKGROUND:

Graham was hired as the Director of Administration for the Placer County Health and Human Services Department in January 2009, overseeing department fiscal and administrative operations. In March 2010 Graham was promoted to the position of County Finance and Budget Operations Manager in the CEO's Office, overseeing the development and monitoring of the county budget. Finally, in April of 2014, Graham returned to the Health and Human Services Department to assume the position of Assistant Department Director to support and oversee the operations of county health and human services. Grahams experience prior to coming to Placer County included over three years as the Senior Fiscal and Policy Analyst for the California Welfare Directors Association and six years as a Legislative Advocate with Lynn M. Suter And Associates.

In 2013 Graham led the development of a multi-year budget framework that helped to balance county priorities with available resources, and complement the county's transition to priority-based budgeting, an approach focused on allocating resources based upon the highest-priority programs and services,

Since returning to the Health and Human Services Department in 2014, Graham has taken a number of leadership roles to further the development of services to promote and maintain the health and welfare of county residents. For example, Graham has played a key role in investigating 211 information and referral services across the state and developing recommendations to establish 211 Service in Placer County.

Furthermore, Graham worked tirelessly in the 2013-14 legislative session with state legislators and advocates to secure passage of AB 2547, to maintain Placer County's integrated health and human service program status, allowing for federal and state waiver authority and program flexibility to better serve Placer County residents,

Graham has most recently led efforts working with the community and a nationally recognized homeless services consultant to develop critical recommendations to improve and expand services and housing for Placer County's homeless individuals and families,

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

**MARCH 24, 2015 IN THE MATTER OF A COMMENDATION HONORING GRAHAM KNAUS, MPA,
FOR HIS REMARKABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS ON BEHALF OF PLACER COUNTY RESIDENTS**

WHEREAS, Graham was appointed as the Director of Administration for the Placer County Health and Human Services Department in January 31, 2009, overseeing department fiscal and administrative operations,

WHEREAS, Graham was appointed in February 26, 2011 to the position of Finance and Budget Operations Manager in the County Executive Office, overseeing the county budget,

WHEREAS, Graham provided leadership in engaging staff in the development of the county budget and with his team received the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Presentation Award on behalf of Placer County; and

WHEREAS, during a time of adverse financial conditions, Graham maintained a positive approach in his work and was diligent in his efforts to identify and implement workable solutions to the benefit of Placer County residents; and

WHEREAS, in 2013 Graham led the development of a multi-year budget framework that helped to balance county priorities with available resources, and complement the county's transition to priority-based budgeting, an approach focused on allocating resources based upon the highest-priority programs and services,

WHEREAS, Graham returned to the Health and Human Services Department on June 29, 2013 to assume the position of Assistant Department Director to support and oversee the operations of county health and human services,

WHEREAS, since 2013, Graham has taken a leadership role in investigating and developing recommendations to establish 211 Service in Placer County,

WHEREAS, Graham worked tirelessly in the 2013-14 legislative session with state legislators and advocates to secure passage of AB 2547, to maintain Placer County's integrated health and human service program status, allowing for federal and state waiver authority and program flexibility to better serve Placer County residents,

WHEREAS, Graham has led efforts over the past year working with the community and a nationally recognized homeless services consultant to develop critical recommendations to improve and expand services and housing for Placer County's homeless population,

WHEREAS, Graham has exhibited enthusiastic leadership while engaging staff to perform at their highest level, and has become a positive role model for organizational teamwork and managing through change,

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE KNOWN that the Placer County Board of Supervisors hereby presents this commendation to Graham Knaus for his exemplary leadership in Health and Human Services and the County Executive Office, and to his outstanding dedication to the residents of Placer County.

Kirk Uhler, Supervisor District 4,
Chairman 2015
Jack Duran, Supervisor District 1
Robert M. Weygandt, Supervisor District 2
Jim Holmes, Supervisor District 3
Jennifer Montgomery, Supervisor District 5