

MEMORANDUM
PLACER COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Adult System of Care

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors
FROM: Jeffrey S. Brown, M.P.H., M.S.W., Director of Health and Human Services
Maureen F. Bauman, Director of Adult System of Care
DATE: October 7, 2014
SUBJECT: Proclaiming November 2014 as Caregiver Appreciation Month in Placer County

ACTION REQUESTED:

1. Approve a Proclamation Proclaiming November 2014 as Caregiver Appreciation Month in Placer County.

BACKGROUND:

The Placer County In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) program and the Public Authority (PA) assist individuals who are elderly, blind, or disabled to remain safely in their home and obtain a caregiver. The IHSS and Public Authority strive to provide services that support a positive and productive relationship between the consumer and the provider.

The 2,400 caregivers in Placer County provide individuals with domestic and personal care. The IHSS caregiver plays an important role in assisting the consumer to live safely, with dignity and independence in their own home. Caregivers assist the consumers with daily tasks that most of us take for granted such as house cleaning, cooking, bathing and grooming, but that some people cannot do without the help a caregiver provides.

The month of November was first proclaimed as National Caregiver Month in 1997 by President Clinton and every president since has issued an annual proclamation appreciating caregivers.

IHSS and Public Authority staff, in conjunction with the United Domestic Workers (UDW) of America, will celebrate all Placer County IHSS Caregivers with an appreciation dinner on December 9, 2014. This event is funded entirely by UDW with staffing support contributed by the County In-Home Supportive Services staff.

The Board is requested to proclaim November 2014 as "Caregiver Month" in Placer County, to demonstrate continued support and commitment to the In-Home Supportive Services and Public Authority programs.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact as a result of this action.

Before the Board of Supervisors County of Placer, State of California

IN THE MATTER OF A PROCLAMATION proclaiming November 2014 as Caregiver Appreciation Month in Placer County.

The following PROCLAMATION was duly passed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer at a regular meeting held _____.

WHEREAS, numerous national organizations have joined together in declaring the month of November 2014 as National Home Care Month in recognition of the valuable contributions of home care workers; and

WHEREAS, in fiscal year 2014-15 In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) caregivers will provide home care services and support which will make it possible for approximately 2,400 low-income disabled and elderly residents in Placer County to remain living independently in their homes, and based on the projected 2,400 recipients served, and the difference between the costs of IHSS and institutional care, there is a potential State savings of \$175 million as a result of reduced institutional care; and

WHEREAS, a recent survey of IHSS recipients showed that 95 percent of survey respondents indicated that the presence of an IHSS caregiver prevented a hospital stay within the previous 120 days; and

WHEREAS, providing services and support for the disabled and elderly to remain living in their homes is a humane, dignified, compassionate and cost-effective alternative to hospitalization or other institutional placement; and

WHEREAS, the work of Placer County's IHSS caregivers promotes independence, dignity, and quality-of-life for Placer County's disabled and elderly residents; and

WHEREAS, the work of Placer County's IHSS caregivers requires great sensitivity, honesty, patience, trust, commitment, dedication, and compassion; and

WHEREAS, the Placer County Health and Human Services Department, and Placer County's IHSS Public Authority and IHSS Advisory Committee are committed to acknowledging the contributions and importance of Placer County's IHSS caregivers,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Board of Supervisors of Placer County, State of California, hereby proclaims, the month of November 2014 as Caregiver Appreciation Month to demonstrate its continued support and commitment to In-Home Supportive Services and Public Authority caregivers.

Jack Duran,
Supervisor District 1, 2014 Chair

Robert M. Weygandt, Supervisor District 2
Jim Holmes, Supervisor District 3
Kirk Uhler, Supervisor District 4
Jennifer Montgomery, Supervisor District 5

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