

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS LINDSEY P. HORVATH
AND HILDA L. SOLIS

February 27, 2024

Proclaiming March 2024 as National Social Work Month

The National Association of Social Workers has designated March as “National Social Work Month” in recognition of the positive and significant impact social workers have in the lives of children, adults, seniors, and families countywide. This year’s theme is “Empowering Social Workers.”

Each day social workers help transform lives and create resilient communities for people to live more fulfilling, enriched lives. They assist Los Angeles County (County) residents in accessing healthful foods, affordable housing, quality healthcare, public transportation, and other supportive services. Social workers help children, parents, caregivers, older adults, and those who are disabled to thrive in their homes and communities. They also advocate at a systems level to ensure laws and policies are adopted and implemented so everyone can access vital services. Today, we acknowledge the heroic contributions of social workers throughout County, appreciating their efforts in protecting, advocating, and standing up for all County residents. Social

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SOLIS	_____
MITCHELL	_____
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workers play an integral role in providing vital County services. They help people navigate life challenges and are essential contributors in numerous County Departments including, but not limited to, Children and Family Services, Public Social Services, Law Offices of the Public Defender, Public Health, Mental Health, Health Services, Law Offices of the Alternate Public Defender, Auditor-Controller, District Attorney, and Aging and Disabilities. The County will continue to empower and rely on social workers' expertise and skills as they continue to pursue social justice and seek solutions to advance equity in our society, including addressing systemic racism, homelessness, and the inequitable distribution of resources.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

- 1) Declare March 2024 as National Social Work Month and adopt the attached proclamation;
- 2) Recognize social workers throughout Los Angeles County for their heroic contributions and for transforming lives and creating resilient communities for County residents; and
- 3) Direct all departments named in this motion to highlight the critical work of Los Angeles County's social workers through social media and other public messaging efforts.

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Social Work Month – March 2024 Proclamation

“Empowering Social Workers”

*Department of Children and Family Services
Department of Public Social Services
Law Offices of the Public Defender
Department of Health Services
Department of Public Health
Department of Mental Health
Law Offices of the Alternate Public Defender
Department of Auditor-Controller
Los Angeles County Aging and Disabilities Department
Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office*

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

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

WHEREAS, this year’s 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;

WHEREAS, Social Workers contribute to the lives of millions of Los Angeles County residents each day and in a variety of places, including schools, healthcare facilities, the military, child welfare agencies, community centers, and other local government agencies; and

WHEREAS, Social Workers persistently advocate for transformative changes that have enhanced the quality of life for people and communities in Los Angeles County.

NOW THEREFORE, in recognition of the numerous contributions made by Los Angeles County Social Workers, the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims the month of March 2024 as National Social Work Month and calls upon all residents to acknowledge the heroic work done by Social Workers, and congratulates them for their commitment to transforming the lives of all people in Los Angeles County.