



24-5502

DATE: May 6, 2024 (Item No. c)
TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Mary Ann Warren, Director, Adult and Aging Services
SUBJECT: 2024 Older Americans Month Proclamation

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Adopt Proclamation declaring May 2024 as “Older Americans Month” in Santa Clara County. (Social Services Agency)

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION AND BACKGROUND

The Social Services Agency (SSA), Department of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS), is requesting the Board of Supervisors (Board) to recognize May 2024 as “Older Americans Month” in Santa Clara County.

Since 1963, Older Americans Month has been a time to celebrate older Americans, their stories, and their contributions. Led by the Administration for Community Living, the annual observance offers a special opportunity to learn about, support, and recognize our nation’s older citizens.

Every May, the Administration for Community Living (ACL) leads the celebration of Older Americans Month. This year’s theme, *Powered by Connection*, recognizes the profound impact that meaningful relationships and social connections have on the health and well-being of older adults.

This year offers an opportunity to explore the vital role that connectedness plays in supporting independence and aging in place by combatting isolation, loneliness, and other issues by:

- **Sharing facts** about the mental, physical, and emotional health benefits of social connection and how it contributes to overall well-being;
- **Promote resources** that help older adults engage, like community events, social clubs, and volunteer opportunities;
- **Connect older adults** with local services, such as transportation, that can help them overcome obstacles to achieving or maintaining meaningful relationships; and
- **Encourage partners** to host a connection-centric event or program focused on older adult mentors to youth, peer-to-peer support, or similar efforts.

The County of Santa Clara looks forward to celebrating Older Americans Month with our partners in the aging community. Diverse communities are strong communities. Ensuring that older adults remain involved and included in our communities for as long as possible benefits everyone.

CHILD IMPACT

The recommended action will have no/neutral impact on children and youth.

SENIOR IMPACT

The recommended action will have a positive impact on seniors, bringing awareness to the contributions made by older adults in Santa Clara County and beyond.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

The recommended action will have no/neutral sustainability implications.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

May 2024 will not be recognized as “Older Americans Month”.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

The Clerk of the Board is requested to notify Mary Ann Warren and Susan Chang of SSA following approval.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 2024 Older Americans Month Proclamation