

- d. Adopt Commendation for the MedAssist Program for the role it has played in improving the health and well-being of Santa Clara County residents.
(Simitian)

WHEREAS, in Santa Clara County alone, nearly 119,000 adults have been diagnosed with diabetes, 257,000 adults and children have been diagnosed with asthma, and more than 21,000 have been diagnosed with serious and potentially life-threatening allergies;

WHEREAS, diabetes medications, asthma inhalers, and epinephrine auto-injectors can manage these chronic conditions and enable those who have been diagnosed with them to live full, healthy lives;

WHEREAS, failing to take these medications as prescribed or lacking access to them when needed can result in serious health consequences or even death, with Santa Clara Valley Medical Center's own data showing that non-adherent diabetes patients are more than ten times more likely to end up in the emergency department than those who adhere to a regular medication schedule;

WHEREAS, the price of these life-preserving medications has increased dramatically in recent years, making them difficult to acquire for many individuals, especially the "missing middle" who may be enrolled in a health insurance program but are required to pay high out-of-pocket costs for their prescriptions;

WHEREAS, Santa Clara County created the first-of-its-kind MedAssist program in 2022 to help residents afford diabetes medications, asthma inhalers, and epinephrine auto-injectors, providing on average \$200 per month to enrolled residents to offset these costs; and

WHEREAS, as of February 2024, MedAssist has enrolled more than 2,000 residents and has provided more than \$2.5 million this year alone to offset medication costs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Clara does hereby honor and commend

The MedAssist Program

for the role it has played in improving the health and wellbeing of Santa Clara County residents.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, by the Board of Supervisors, County of Santa Clara, State of California, on this 15th day of April, Two Thousand and Twenty-Four by unanimous vote.

Susan Ellenberg
President, Board of Supervisors

Sylvia Arenas
Supervisor, District One

Cindy Chavez
Supervisor, District Two

Approved as to form and legality:

Otto Lee
Supervisor, District Three

S. Joseph Simitian
Supervisor, District Five

Tony LoPresti
County Counsel

Attest: Curtis Boone
Acting Clerk, Board of Supervisors