

# Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors Proclamation

PROCLAIMING MAY 6-12, 2023 AS NATIONAL NURSES WEEK  
IN SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

WHEREAS, the American Nurses Association (ANA) 2023 theme of "Nurses Make a Difference" could not be truer once again for Santa Cruz County. Santa Cruz County Nurses more than ever are vital to the wellbeing of our communities as we recover and continue to respond to the multifaceted threats to health; and

WHEREAS, for the 21<sup>st</sup> year in a row, according to the Gallup Poll, nurses are ranked #1 as the most trusted professionals, and the nursing workforce is the largest among all the health care professions and is nearly four times the size of the physician workforce; and

WHEREAS, nurses practice in a wide variety of care delivery settings, and they provide care to people living in both urban and rural areas and to vulnerable populations, including women, people of color, individuals facing health, racial and social inequities, low-income individuals, and individual with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, as the needs of the Santa Cruz community changes post COVID-19, nurses are responding by training and educating the workforce and future nurses to protect, promote and preserve health, and nursing is evolving to care for its community roles such as care coordinator, faculty team leader, informatic specialists, community nurses and primary care partners; and

WHEREAS, nurses are uniquely trained to address some of the greatest threats to community, family and individual health which include: improving access to primary health care and the effectiveness of primary care delivery systems; improving maternal health outcomes and the delivery of maternal healthcare; improving the care provided to the nation's aging population, particularly frail adults; and controlling health care spending, reducing costs, and increasing the value of nurses' contributions to improving health and health care delivery; and

WHEREAS, nurses from across Santa Cruz County continue to respond to natural disasters and emergencies that are increasingly driven by climate change; and

WHEREAS, nursing practice cares for the heart, mind, soul and body of patients, their families, and communities, and the appreciation for our nurses during this time simply cannot be overstated.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Zach Friend, Chair of the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors, do hereby proclaim the week of May 6-12, 2023, as National Nurses Week in Santa Cruz County.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Zach Friend", is written over a horizontal line.

*Chairperson, Board of Supervisors*

May 1, 2023

*Date*