

Proclamation of the City of San Pablo

Recognizing

November 2019

As

Homelessness Awareness Month

WHEREAS, the month of November is recognized as Homelessness Awareness Month in the United States;

WHEREAS, the purpose of the proclamation is to educate the public and advocate with and on behalf of people experiencing homelessness about the many reasons people are homeless including the shortage of affordable housing in Contra Costa County; and to encourage support for homeless assistance service providers as well as community service opportunities for students and school service organizations;

WHEREAS, there are over twenty organizations in Contra Costa County committed to sheltering and providing supportive services and/or basic resources to people experiencing homelessness;

WHEREAS, the City of San Pablo recognizes that homelessness continues to be a serious problem for many individuals and families in Contra Costa County;

WHEREAS, 6,924 individuals accessed homeless services, and 600 families, including 1,103 minors, accessed homeless services in Contra Costa County in 2018;

WHEREAS, 36% of homeless veterans in Contra Costa County (178 out of 496 homeless veterans) have been homeless for 12 months or more;

WHEREAS, 659 seniors over the age 62 accessed homeless services in 2018;

WHEREAS, Contra Costa has only 28% of shelter capacity needed for single adults;

WHEREAS, in Contra Costa County, renters need to earn three times the local minimum wage to afford the median monthly asking rent of \$2,286; and

WHEREAS, a report by California Housing Partnership in 2019 found that Contra Costa County needs over 30,000 more affordable rental homes to meet the needs of its lowest income renters.

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of San Pablo does hereby proclaim the month of **November 2019** as “**Homelessness Awareness Month**” and encourages all citizens to recognize that thousands of people in Contra Costa do not have housing and need support from residents and private/public non-profit service entities to address the myriad challenges of homelessness.*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of San Pablo to be affixed this 28th day of October, 2019.

Rich Kinney, Mayor