



**THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 12 to 18 AS**

Community Foundation Week

WHEREAS, Community Foundation Week, celebrated annually from November 12 to 18, was established in 1989 by President George H.W. Bush to recognize the important and ongoing work of community foundations across the United States, and their collaborative, innovative approach to improving communities through partnerships with the public, private, and nonprofit sectors; and

WHEREAS, this national observance coincides with National Philanthropy Day on November 15, offering a meaningful opportunity to reflect on the enduring impact of community-based philanthropy and to raise awareness of the vital role community foundations play in addressing persistent civic and economic challenges; and

WHEREAS, community foundations are grantmaking public charities that mobilize the financial resources of individuals, families, and businesses to support effective nonprofit organizations within their communities, enhancing local quality of life and promoting equity and opportunity; and

WHEREAS, the concept of community foundations began in 1914 with the creation of the first community foundation in Cleveland, Ohio, which continues to operate today as The Cleveland Foundation. This pioneering model has since expanded globally and now includes community foundations on every continent except Antarctica; and

WHEREAS, as of 2015, there were 795 community foundations across the United States, with Indiana having the highest number among the states, totaling 76. These foundations collectively contributed nearly \$7 billion in philanthropic giving that year alone; and

WHEREAS, California leads the nation in philanthropic support from community foundations, contributing nearly \$1.5 billion in 2015, affirming the state's commitment to using local giving to solve local challenges; and

WHEREAS, community foundations serving San Mateo County and its neighboring regions have played an instrumental role in uplifting communities by funding vital initiatives in education, health, economic development, environmental sustainability, housing, the arts, and social justice. These investments have helped build stronger, more inclusive, and resilient communities; and

WHEREAS, these foundations not only support efforts within their geographic regions but also align with and contribute to broader regional and national initiatives that address systemic issues, acting as key drivers of progress, equity, and innovation in times of both stability and crisis; and

WHEREAS, the County of San Mateo wishes to recognize and commend the leadership and commitment of the dedicated foundation leaders who have advanced this important work, including: Nicole Taylor, President & CEO, Silicon Valley Community Foundation; Leslie Hatamiya, Executive Director, San Bruno Community Foundation; Ever Rodriguez, President, North Fair Oaks Community Alliance; James Higa, Executive Director, Philanthropic Ventures Foundation, Sandy Herz, President, Walter & Elise Haas Fund; Fred Blackwell, CEO, San Francisco Foundation; Linda Garvey, President, San Carlos Community Foundation; Amber Stariha, Executive Director, Mavericks Community Foundation; Marcia Cohen, Executive Director, Jewish Community Federation and Endowment Fund; Juanita Croft, President, Belle Haven Community Development Fund; Irene Wong, CEO, Palo Alto Community Fund; Eileen Richardson, Co-Founder & Former Executive Director, Downtown Streets Team, a frequent grantee of local foundations; Susan True, CEO, Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County, and the Latino Community Foundation whose collective efforts have significantly strengthened local capacity, deepened public-private collaboration, and empowered countless individuals and families throughout the region.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California hereby honors and extends its sincere appreciation to the community foundations serving San Mateo County and beyond, for their unwavering commitment to public service, equity, and community well-being; and proudly joins others across the nation in recognizing November 12-18 as Community Foundation Week, encouraging all residents to engage with and support their local community foundations in their efforts to build vibrant and thriving communities for all.

DATED : November 18, 2025

SUPERVISORS:

DAVID J. CANEPA, PRESIDENT

JACKIE SPEIER

NOELIA CORZO

RAY MUELLER

LISA GAUTHIER

ATTEST:

DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

