



THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING MARCH 24TH TO MARCH 31ST, 2025 AS

Farmworker Awareness Week

WHEREAS, Farmworker Awareness Week was created to raise awareness about farmworker conditions, to honor their important contributions to the agriculture economy and community, and celebrate the work of labor leaders, Dolores Huerta, Larry Itliong, and Cesar Chávez; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the countless contributions that farmworkers make to the local culture and economy, and to elevate the representation of farmworkers in the realm of local policymaking, the County of San Mateo created the Farmworker Advisory Commission in 2022 to bring visibility to the needs of farmworkers and advise the Board of Supervisors on policies, communications and programs to improve the quality of life for farmworkers and their families in San Mateo County; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the Farmworker Advisory Commission, community-based organizations such as Puente de la Costa Sur (PUENTE), Ayudando Latinos a Soñar (ALAS), Abundant Grace Coastside Worker, and Coastside Hope are key partners that advocate for and uplift the voices of farmworkers in San Mateo County, honoring the legacy of the farmworker (*campesino*) movement and recognizing farmworkers as pillars of the agriculture economy; and

WHEREAS, farmworkers contribute to California's position as the leading state in cash farm receipts, with its agricultural commodities accounting for 10.4 percent of the U.S. total; and

WHEREAS, farmworkers are important to San Mateo County's local economy, particularly on the Coastside, driving the region's agriculture and floriculture production and contributing to the state's top crops of fruits and vegetables; and

WHEREAS, farmworkers continue to be among the lowest paid workers in the state, often facing wage theft and other workplace violations, experiencing jobs that are among the top ten most dangerous in the U.S., especially in terms of fatal injuries and as climate-related hazards intensify, and where they continue to suffer racial, cultural, and ethnic discrimination and persecution; and

WHEREAS, the County of San Mateo strives to support farmworkers with a variety of programs, including: information on pesticide safety resources from Agriculture / Weights and Measures, farmworker outreach and support for the Farmworker Advisory Commission by the Office of Community Affairs, contracts for immigration deportation and legal defense assistance through the County Executive's Office, investments and development of Stone Pine Farmworker Housing by the Department of Housing, mobile mental health and substance use services funded by Behavioral Health Services, protective gear against H5N1 for workers on dairy and poultry farms provided by the Health Department, and coordination of the Healthcare for the Homeless and Farmworkers Committees, and developing the Farmworker Housing Compliance Task Force to ensure healthy living environments through a multi-agency taskforce using both enforcement and incentive levers to drive change.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, hereby designates March 24th through March 31st, 2025, as **Farmworker Awareness Week** in San Mateo County to acknowledge the important role of farmworkers in the community and to support continued efforts to improve the conditions in which they work and live.

Dated: March 25, 2025

SUPERVISORS:

DAVID J. CANEPA, PRESIDENT

JACKIE SPEIER

NOELIA CORZO

RAY MUELLER

LISA GAUTHIER

ATTEST: _____
DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

