



A Tradition of Stewardship  
A Commitment to Service

Agenda Date: 10/7/2014

Agenda Placement: 4A

## NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Shelli Brobst for HOWARD HIMES - Director  
Health & Human Services Administration

**REPORT BY:** Shelli Brobst, Contracts Analyst - 253-4720

**SUBJECT:** Proclamation declaring October 2014 as "Sudden Cardiac Awareness Month" in Napa County

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

Presentation of a proclamation to Stacey Bauer and Anne Steinhauer, Emergency Medical Care Committee members and co-chairs of the Public Information & Education Committee, declaring October 2014 Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Month.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Each year, more than 420,000 emergency medical services (EMS) assessed out-of-hospital cardiac arrests occur in the United States (American Heart Association, 2013). More people die each year from sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) than from cancer, auto accidents, AIDS, firearms and house fires combined (Sudden Cardiac Arrest Foundation). Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Month is dedicated to educating residents and visitors about "Heartsafe Communities." The Public Information and Education (PIE) Committee would like to encourage communities to learn CPR, place automated external defibrillators (AEDs) and become familiar with the signs of poor cardiovascular health. These simple steps can increase the chances of survival for anyone suffering a cardiovascular emergency.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Is there a Fiscal Impact?                      No

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

### **BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION**

Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) claims well over 1,000 lives per day and early cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and defibrillation can dramatically improve survival rates. Cardiac arrest strikes people of all ages, all degrees of fitness and affects all ethnicities. Currently nationwide less than 10 percent of victims survive SCA.

Many more lives could be saved if bystanders would quickly phone 9-1-1, begin CPR immediately, and apply and use an available Automated External Defibrillator (AED). Time is of the essence - for every minute that passes without CPR and defibrillation the chance of survival decreases by 10 percent. Public access AEDs located in key locations where people work, live and play are critical in the fight against cardiac arrest.

A "Heartsafe Community" is a community where all elements of the chain of survival are in place. The Napa County Emergency Medical Services Agency and the Emergency Medical Care Committee (EMCC) would like to bring awareness and education to improve the cardiovascular health of Napa County residents/visitors and increase the chances that anyone suffering a cardiovascular emergency will have the best possible chance for survival.

The Napa County Emergency Medical Services Agency and the EMCC would like to recognize the month of October as SCA Awareness Month and encourage and support communities to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

### **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

A . Proclamation

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Karen Collins