

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 299104

ADOPTED ON APR 26 2004

WHEREAS, Voices for Children, a nonprofit organization, endeavors to ensure that abused, neglected, and abandoned children who have become dependents of the San Diego Superior Court will have a safe and permanent home; and

WHEREAS, since its inception in 1980, Voices for Children has served approximately 28,000 children, and the organization continues to provide love and care to children in need with the aid of its 350 volunteers, helping a total of 4,610 children with child advocacy and case management in its fiscal year 2002-2003; and

WHEREAS, through its network of trained and educated volunteer Court Appointed Special Advocates, Voices for Children works with key agencies, legal counsel, and community resources to identify and protect the best interests of each child inside and outside of court; and

WHEREAS, as part of the National Court Appointed Special Advocate Association, Voices for Children recruits, screens, trains, and supervises volunteers to become Court Appointed Special Advocates in San Diego County, and each volunteer is assigned to a particular child and serves as a fact finder, reviews documents, and interviews the child or children, parents, and all parties involved in the case; and

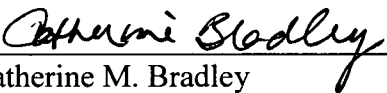
WHEREAS, each Court Appointed Special Advocate speaks for the child in court, providing objective recommendations to the judge that focus on the child's best interests; and

WHEREAS, Voices for Children is using the final days of April, which is nationally recognized as Child Abuse Prevention Month, to raise awareness and funds to support its Court Appointed Special Advocate [CASA] program; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of San Diego, that this Council, for and on behalf of the people of San Diego, does hereby recognize Voices for Children for its dedication to help and care for children in San Diego County's foster care system, and commend volunteer Court Appointed Special Advocates for working to make a difference in the lives of many children in our community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that April 25-30, 2004, be and is hereby proclaimed to be "VOICES FOR CHILDREN WEEK" in the City of San Diego.

APPROVED: CASEY GWINN, City Attorney

By   
Catherine M. Bradley  
Deputy City Attorney

CMB:jab  
04/20/2004  
Or.Dept: Mayor  
R-2004-1117