

PROCLAMATION

Presented by Board of Supervisors Greg Cox

HONORING Project New Village

WHEREAS, the health, safety and well-being of residents is of primary concern for the County of San Diego and on July 13, 2010, the San Diego County Board of Supervisors adopted the Live Well San Diego initiative to achieve the County's vision of safe, healthy and thriving communities; and

WHEREAS, the Live Well San Diego initiative is about uniting all sectors—business, schools, military and veteran's organizations, community- and faith-based organizations, and all levels of government—in order to bring about positive change; and

WHEREAS, Project New Village has been and continues to be a strong partner and leader in the region, dedicated to empowering Southeastern San Diego community residents regarding food access and health equity; and

WHEREAS, Project New Village brings together residents and stakeholders in an effort to collectively promote and create opportunities to food access as a means to better health; and

WHEREAS, Project New Village inspires residents to work towards goals that will increase their consumption of affordable, locally grown fruits and vegetables; and

WHEREAS, the People's Produce Project, a signature initiative of Project New Village, has resulted in the only certified Farmers Market in Southeastern San Diego, which accepts SNAP/EBT & WIC benefits, increasing access to fresh, nutritious, local food to low-income residents; and

WHEREAS, the People's Produce Project was successful in launching the first community garden in Southeastern San Diego, the Mount Hope Community Garden, which creates opportunities for residents to grow their own food and connects residents of all ages to the local food system exposing them to the benefits and possibilities of growing food; and

WHEREAS, Project New Village was a key partner in the Healthy Works grant, having recruited residents for and hosted the Southeastern San Diego Resident Leadership Academy which resulted in residents identifying community improvement projects to promote a safer and healthier community ; and

WHEREAS, Project New Village is a key partner in the Communities of Excellence in Nutrition, Physical Activity, & Obesity Prevention (CX³) project which seeks to create, with the support and involvement of local residents, policy, systems, and environmental change in the Lincoln Park neighborhood of Southeastern San Diego; and

WHEREAS, Project New Village continues to support efforts to empower residents through hosting the Resident Leadership Academy, which this year will result in a community forum and obtaining Central Region resident input on the Community Needs Assessment survey; and

WHEREAS, Project New Village & the People's Produce Project, in collaboration with researchers in the Department of Geography at San Diego State University, released the Southeastern San Diego's Food Landscape: Challenges and Opportunities report which will help inform policymakers and community stakeholders in creating opportunities to building a healthy, sustainable and fair food environment.

WHEREAS, Project New Village is committed to continuing to advance Live Well San Diego into the future, and is embracing strategies of this initiative in ways illustrated here:

- *Building a Better Service Delivery System through continuing to provide a venue for CalFresh outreach workers to connect with residents in need of assistance and information*
- *Supporting Positive Choices by making available healthy, wholesome food at the People's Produce Project Farmers Market and providing avenues and learning experiences that allow residents to grow their own food, whether at home or at the Mt. Hope Community Garden*
- *Pursuing Policy and Environmental Change through continued participation in key efforts on the CX³ project and Resident Leadership Academy*

WHEREAS, the County of San Diego is committed to recognizing and honoring community agencies that support the creation of healthier and more safe neighborhoods; **NOW THEREFORE**,

BE IT PROCLAIMED by Greg Cox and all members of the San Diego County Board of Supervisors on this 25th day of October 2014 that they commend and hereby recognize Project New Village for its work for outstanding service, leadership, and commitment to supporting the Live Well San Diego initiative and do hereby declare this day to be Project New Village Live Well San Diego Day throughout San Diego County.