

CITY OF FRESNO

Offices of Councilmember Miguel Arias & Councilmember Esmeralda Soria

WHEREAS, Centro La Familia Advocacy Services began in 1972 as a project in a Fresno City College La Raza studies class where students were encouraged to become involved in the community; and

WHEREAS, A small group of students set up a table outside the intake building of the Fresno County Department of Social Services, where they provided applicants with translation services and assistance with forms. In turn, exposing a significant gap in services and helping establish a framework and presence for today's Centro La Familia; and

WHEREAS, The emerging community-based non-profit was embraced by various individuals and organizations including Fresno County, who provided a small grant allowing Centro La Familia to open up across from the Department of Social Services; and

WHEREAS, Centro La Familia has grown from a small, urban-centered agency providing direct advocacy and intervention services, into a multi-service agency offering social service and education programs in both rural and urban areas of Fresno County; and

WHEREAS, Today's Centro La Familia offers a broad range of bilingual and culturally sensitive programs and holistic approaches to assist crime victims, support families and children, promote health and wellness, encourage civic engagement, and more; and

WHEREAS, Centro La Familia was honored in 2018 as the Non-Profit of the Year in the 31st Assembly District, and celebrated that same year in the City of Fresno with "Centro La Familia Day"; and

WHEREAS, Centro La Familia, in addition to its main Fresno office, has established neighborhood resource centers in Highway City, Kerman, and central Fresno to better serve the community. They have also been instrumental in providing education and free vaccines during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Annually, Centro La Familia serves more than 15,000 families and reaches 150,000 community members through outreach and education programs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fresno City Council does hereby honor Centro La Familia Advocacy Services on its 50th anniversary, and hereby proclaims October 1, 2022, to be:

“Centro La Familia Advocacy Services Day”

in the City of Fresno.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and affixed the Great Seal of the City of Fresno, California, this 1st day of October 2022.

JERRY DYER, Honorable Mayor

MIGUEL ARIAS, Councilmember, District 3

NELSON ESPARZA, Council President, District 7

TYLER MAXWELL, Council Vice President, District 4

ESMERALDA SORIA, Councilmember, District 1

MIKE KARBASSI, Councilmember, District 2

LUIS CHAVEZ, Councilmember, District 5

GARRY BREDEFELD, Councilmember, District 6