

City of Petaluma Proclamation

AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH – MARCH 2024

WHEREAS, in times of crisis, people in the City of Petaluma come together to care for one another. This humanitarian spirit is part of the foundation of our community and is exemplified by American Red Cross volunteers and donors; and

WHEREAS, in 1881, Clara Barton founded the American Red Cross, turning her steadfast dedication for helping others into a bold mission of preventing and alleviating people's suffering. Today, more than 140 years later, we honor the kindness and generosity of Red Cross volunteers here in Petaluma, who continue to carry out Clara's lifesaving legacy. They join the millions of people across the United States who volunteer, give blood, donate financially, or learn vital life-preserving skills through the Red Cross; and

WHEREAS, in Petaluma, the contributions of local Red Cross volunteers give hope to the most vulnerable in their darkest hours — whether it's providing emergency shelter, food and comfort for families devastated by local disasters like home fires, donating essential blood for accident and burn victims, heart surgery and organ transplant patients, and those receiving treatment for leukemia, cancer or sickle cell disease; supporting service members and veterans, along with their families and caregivers, through the unique challenges of military life; helping to save the lives of others with first aid, CPR and other skills; or delivering international humanitarian aid; and

WHEREAS, their work to prevent and alleviate human suffering is vital to strengthening our community's resilience. We dedicate this month of March to all those who continue to advance the noble legacy of American Red Cross founder Clara Barton, who lived by her words, "You must never think of anything except the need, and how to meet it." We ask others to join in this commitment to give back to our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Kevin McDonnell, Mayor of Petaluma, along with members of the Petaluma City Council, do hereby acknowledge March 2024 as Red Cross Month and encourage all citizens of Petaluma to reach out and support its humanitarian mission.

Kevin McDonnell, Mayor

Caitlin Corley, City Clerk