



Connie Beck, Director  
Social Services | Public Health | Mental Health

## news release

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March 1, 2016

### Board of Supervisors proclaim March as 'Social Worker Appreciation Month'

The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors took time at its Tuesday meeting to honor social workers throughout the county for the work they do to enhance the well-being of individuals, families and the community.

"This is one of my favorite proclamations of the year," said Fifth District Supervisor Ryan Sundberg, adding that his sister is a social worker. "I know how hard it is—especially in Humboldt County. We do respect you so much and we appreciate the job you do."

Social workers serve people from all walks of life, with focuses spanning child welfare services, adult protective services and family services.

"Social workers in child welfare have an immensely rewarding and difficult role intervening when children and families are at their most vulnerable, and engaging them, their family and support people to provide safety and security to their children," said Michele Stephens, deputy director of Children & Family Services at the Department of Health & Human Services.

"They work not only with families, but also other service providers and the community to help families reach their goals all the while balancing the need to also take care of themselves," Stephens said.

First District Supervisor Rex Bohn said the work social workers do helps make the world a better place. "You take something and make it better," he said. "You probably do that more than any of us."

"Social workers are so critical in the lives of the people we are trying to help," said Third District Supervisor Mark Lovelace. "They are the folks that are actually making that meaningful difference—my deepest appreciation to all of you."



**Cutline:**

Employees of the Humboldt County Department of Health & Human Services Social Services Branch gathered to accept the Social Worker Appreciation Month proclamation from Supervisor Ryan Sundberg Tuesday morning. Left to right, Social Worker Supervisor II Pamela Miller, Sundberg, Adult Services Supervisor Liora Levenbach, Children & Family Services Deputy Director Michele Stephens, Social Services Director Stephanie Weldon and Program Manager II Amanda Winstead.

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