DATE: January 14, 2020

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: David Campos, Deputy County Executive
Arcel V. Blume, Director of the Office of Cultural Competency

SUBJECT: National Day of Racial Healing Proclamation

RECOMMENDED ACTION
Adopt Proclamation declaring January 21, 2020 as the "National Day of Racial Healing" in Santa Clara County. (Office of the County Executive, Division of Equity and Social Justice)

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION
The Office of Cultural Competency in the Division of Equity and Social Justice, Office of the County Executive, is requesting the Board of Supervisors to recognize January 21, 2020, as “National Day of Racial Healing” in Santa Clara County.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS
There are no fiscal implications associated with the recommended action.

CHILD IMPACT
The recommended action will have a positive impact on children and youth and their families by bringing awareness and supporting activities that foster wellness and healing.

SENIOR IMPACT
The recommended action will have a positive impact on older adults and seniors by bringing awareness and supporting activities that foster wellness and healing.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS
The recommended action will have no/neutral sustainability implications.

BACKGROUND
The County of Santa Clara upholds a commitment to equity, healing, and wellness as essential to better serving the community and strengthening relationships. Cross-system strategic efforts examine County policies and programs to address racial and social justice inequities through intentional partnerships with system and community partners, such as systemwide efforts of the Cross-Agency Services Team (CAST) and the collective work of
the offices within the Division of Equity and Social Justice. The Office of Cultural Competency, within the Division of Equity and Social Justice, will host and promote a series of activities designed to focus on ways to heal from the wounds of the past, to build mutually respectful relationships across racial and ethnic lines, and to build trusting intergenerational and diverse community relationships that better reflect our common humanity.

January 21, 2020, is recognized across the country as a National Day of Healing and is part of a larger framework of Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation to eradicate the belief in a hierarchy of human value (Kellogg Foundation: https://healourcommunities.org/day-of-racial-healing/). This damaging belief shows itself when a person is valued more than another based on skin color, physical or superficial characteristics that ultimately affect decisions in areas such as policy, job decisions, how children are taught, or treated – to name a few. By lifting the guiding principles of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., as well as the racial and social justice efforts taking place in our County and communities, we further transformational efforts toward healing and racial equity.

**CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION**

January 21, 2020, would not be recognized as “National Day of Racial Healing.”

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- Proclamation Racial Healing_FINAL (PDF)