

**PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING MARCH 2020 AS AMERICAN RED CROSS
MONTH IN THE CITY OF HERCULES**

WHEREAS; every year, the American Red Cross, the largest humanitarian organization in the world, responds to an average of more than 62,000 disasters across the country, from small home fires to massive disasters; and

WHEREAS; last year's large crises included overwhelming mudslides in California, an earth-shattering volcano eruption in Hawaii, ravaging wildfires in California and Colorado, destructive hurricanes in Florida and the Carolinas, and a devastating typhoon in U.S. territories; and

WHEREAS; thousands of American Red Cross volunteers provided emotional support and around-the-clock shelter for disaster victims, served millions of meals and snacks with community partners, collected 40 percent of the nation's blood, taught skills that save lives; provided international humanitarian aid, and supported military members and their families; and

WHEREAS; through its Home Fire Campaign that began in October 2014, the American Red Cross has worked with fire departments and community partners across the country to install at no-cost to the residents more than 1.5 million smoke alarms, made more than 648,000 households safer and saved 511 lives. During the past year, the American Red Cross Bay Area responded to 838 home fires, installed 10,605 free smoke alarms, made 3,403 households safer and helped save lives; and

WHEREAS; last year in Contra Costa County, besides responding to 109 local disasters, the American Red Cross has a long history of helping our neighbors by teaching First Aid, CPR & AED to 6,595 enrollees and Aquatic & Water Safety to another 2,173. We also assisted 1,393 military families and collected 16,025 units of blood from our generous blood donors; and

WHEREAS; March is American Red Cross Month, a special time to recognize and thank the American Red Cross volunteers, partners and donors who give of their time and resources to deliver help and hope to members of the community; and

WHEREAS; the American Red Cross applaud our heroes here in Contra Costa County who gave 43,495 hours to assist our neighbors when they needed a helping hand; and

WHEREAS; we dedicate the month of March to all those who support the American Red Cross mission to prevent and alleviate human suffering in the face of emergencies. Our community depends on the American Red Cross, which relies on volunteers and the generosity of the public to perform its mission.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED that I, Roland Esquivias, Mayor of the City of Hercules, on behalf of the entire City Council, do hereby recognize March 2020 as American Red Cross Month in the City of Hercules.

In witness whereof, I hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Hercules to be affixed this 10th day of March, 2020.

Roland Esquivias, Mayor