

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE
COUNTY OF AMADOR, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

IN THE MATTER OF:

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE AMADOR)
TUOLUMNE COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY) RESOLUTION NO. 21-086
ON FORTY YEARS OF SERVICE)

WHEREAS, In 1981 Amador County Officials desired to form a Community Action Agency (CAA), with the sole purpose of carrying out the programs of the Economic Opportunity Act (EOA), created as "The War on Poverty", to bring residents from poverty to prosperity through safety net services, education with a focus on self-sufficiency; and

WHEREAS, The Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 required a minimum population of 50,000, and Amador County would need to join with other counties to meet with requirement, and Tuolumne County was very interested, whereas Alpine, Calaveras and Mariposa Counties were not interested at the time; and

WHEREAS, EOA CAA federal funding required a local match of 25%, and both Amador and Tuolumne Counties agreed to make this contribution with 60% contributed by Tuolumne County and 40% contributed by Amador County based on its population; and

WHEREAS, Amador and Tuolumne Counties joined together to create a Joint Powers Agency, an entity, separate and apart from the formation Counties with the sole purpose of carrying out the programs of the Economic Opportunity Act; and

WHEREAS, the Joint Powers Agreement was approved by both the Amador and the Tuolumne Board of Supervisors and signed on June 16th 1981 by Amador Board of Supervisor Frederick Joyce, Chairman, calling the new entity the Amador Tuolumne Community Action Agency commonly known as ATCAA; and

WHEREAS, a tripartite eighteen-member Board of Directors was formed in accordance with the EOA with one third of the members from the low-income sector, one third from the private sector, and one third from the public sector, which would consist of two Board of Supervisors and one other public official chosen by the Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS the ATCAA of Directors selected its first Chairperson, Judith Varley, and hired its first Executive Director, Rick Martin, today known as Rick Breeze Martin, to lead the organization; and

WHEREAS, 40 years later ATCAA has 125 employees and a budget of approximately \$11 million, bringing resources into Amador County and addressing critical services; and

WHEREAS, Unless the risks posed by dead, dying and diseased trees are immediately abated, there will remain a significantly increased risk to life and property, and interruption of essential services; and

WHEREAS, ATCAA's mission is to serve Amador and Tuolumne Counties, occasionally over the years adjoining foothill counties have requested ATCAA service and/or funding requiring regional service, the ATCAA Board has approved ATCAA expanding its service area on a case-by-case basis. The first expansion of services was in the Energy Department with weatherization and utility assistance; and

WHEREAS; one of ATCAA's first programs was home weatherization and utility assistance with priority to the elderly, disabled and vulnerable families. Today ATCAA weatherizes over 300 homes a year in Amador, Calaveras and Tuolumne Counties, providing home safety and conservation education, and water conservation on eligible homes and in 2019 served 806 individuals with weatherization services with 2,432 home improvements and 3,894 individuals were assisted with utility assistance; and

WHEREAS, in 1982 ATCAA started a volunteer program and an Information and Referral (I&R) Program. Today ATCAA has over 400 volunteers and receives over 9000 requests for I &R which are answered.

WHEREAS; in 1982 ATCAA started a Food Distribution Program throughout the County. Later ATCAA would secure funding to work with Amador County and local faith-based organizations to form the Interfaith Food Bank and the development of the Interfaith Food Bank facility; and

WHEREAS; ATCAA started the Amador Lifeline Program with the assistance of the Jackson Rotary Club to assist seniors and the disabled to feel safer living alone through the installation and support of a home response system. Today the program has expanded to Calaveras and serves 255 vulnerable seniors and includes community education on fall prevention; and

WHEREAS; in 1982 with assistance from Amador County, ATCAA started five youth centers throughout Amador County, then started a child abuse prevention program including parent education, children's counseling services and a CASA Program (Court Appointed Special Advocate) working with the Amador Court system and Judge Susan Harlan; and

WHEREAS; in 1982 ATCAA built 8 units of housing in Ione as an FHA Experimental Housing Project, much like today's "Tiny Houses" with expansion capabilities. ATCAA worked with the Amador Red Cross and developed a Homeless Shelter in Jackson, later operating and purchasing the property. In 2019 ATCAA Homeless Shelters, one in each county, provided temporary shelter to 175 adults and 92 children as well as food, employment assistance and referrals to other area programs, provided a homeless prevention program that assisted 377 qualified individuals and families with rental and utility assistance, housing referrals, one-on-one support, budgeting classes and counseling assistance. This program partners with CalWorks, and collaborates with partner agencies through the Continuum of Care. In 2018 ATCAA opened Varley Place to provide permanent supportive housing to homeless veterans and their families. There are 12 units; three 3-bedroom units, three 2-bedroom units and six 1-bedroom units totaling 33 beds. The veteran's house at Varley Place is home to high-needs and vulnerable individuals and families; and

WHEREAS; Alongside emergency and transitional housing services, ATCAA Provides other housing support services and in 2019 ATCAA provided 504 residents with eviction

prevention services, 475 residents with rent and deposit assistance, and 510 residents with housing placements including shelter; and

WHEREAS; ATCAA has provided various forms of education in its 40 years of service including individual adult literacy tutoring program focusing on basic training as the mining and lumber mill closures left local workers out of work and needing new skills for employment. ATCAA transitioned this program to the Amador County Library through securing a grant for the Library. ATCAA provided a Family Learning and Support Program for 20 years including a focus on literacy to non-English speaking families and local workers. Other adult education today includes ATCAA's Smart Money Program offered financial literacy courses to 280 individuals in 2019 that included budget and debt management, credit scores, fair debt collections, reducing housing expenses, making money work for you and living easier. ATCAA also provides a volunteer Tax Assistance Program serving 375 individuals in 2019; and

WHEREAS; ATCAA started a Head Start Program in Amador and Tuolumne Counties in 1984 serving 60 children, and today serves 247 children ages 3-5 and 215 Early Hear Start children 0-3 in 11 classrooms as well as homebased serve in both counties; and

WHEREAS; ATCAA has taken on many special and innovative projects for 40 years including ten years of providing computer and internet training and rural broadband advocacy through the creation of the regional "Central Sierra Connect"; and

WHEREAS; The vision of both Amador and Tuolumne Counties in formation of ATCAA with continued collaboration and support has greatly impacted local residents, has provided critical safety-net services, education, support and self-sufficiency to thousands of residents;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED; the County of Amador, hereby acknowledges, thanks and congratulates ATCAA on forty years of contribution to Amador County and its residents.

The foregoing resolution was duly passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors in the County of Amador at a regular meeting thereof, held on the 8th day of J, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES: Frank U. Axe, Richard M. Forster, Jeff Brown, Brian Oneto, Patrick Crew
NOES: None
ABSENT: None



Frank U. Axe, Chairman, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:
JENNIFER BURNS, Clerk of the
Board of Supervisors, Amador County,
California



Deputy