



Proclamation of the City Council

City of San Diego

Carmen M. Chavez, Esq.'s 25th Anniversary at Casa Cornelia Law Center Day Presented by Council President Georgette Gómez November 17, 2020

- WHEREAS,** Casa Cornelia Law Center is a 501(c)(3) non-profit law firm whose mission is to provide quality pro bono legal services to victims of human and civil rights violations; and
- WHEREAS,** Casa Cornelia has a primary commitment to indigent persons within the immigrant community in Southern California, and seeks to educate others regarding the impact of immigration law and policy on the community and the public good; and
- WHEREAS,** Carmen M. Chavez, Esq. is Casa Cornelia's Executive Director and celebrates her 25th Anniversary with the organization this year; and
- WHEREAS,** Carmen started out as a volunteer with Casa Cornelia and has served various roles within the organization since then; and
- WHEREAS,** Casa Cornelia currently has 26 staff members, and in 2019 had 522 active volunteer attorneys, law clerks, paralegals, interpreters, and translators, who generated 24,296 hours of cumulative service and responded to 2,661 individuals from 70 countries; and
- WHEREAS,** Casa Cornelia works to reduce barriers related to poverty, trauma, and language to ensure that those men, women, and children who are eligible for humanitarian immigration relief under the law can access the legal representation they need; and
- WHEREAS,** Casa Cornelia is the only legal services provider in San Diego that serves unaccompanied children who arrive at our Southern border and are then detained; and
- WHEREAS,** Casa Cornelia's programs aim to eliminate the fear, distress, and trauma caused by living in hiding, fear, or detention, and are based on the belief that our communities are safer when the most vulnerable among us have a path to protection, safety, independence, and self-empowerment; and
- WHEREAS,** Carmen leads Casa Cornelia with warmth, compassion, and determination, especially during this difficult time, and the organization's staff and board are incredibly grateful for her; **NOW THEREFORE**

BE IT PROCLAIMED, by the City Council, that this Council, for and on behalf of the people of San Diego, does hereby proclaim November 17, 2020 to be "**Carmen M. Chavez, Esq.'s 25th Anniversary at Casa Cornelia Law Center Day**" in the City of San Diego.



Georgette Gómez
COUNCIL PRESIDENT GEORGETTE GÓMEZ

Barbara Bry
COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM BARBARA BRY

Jennifer Campbell
COUNCIL MEMBER JENNIFER CAMPBELL

Chris Ward
COUNCIL MEMBER CHRIS WARD

Monica Montgomery
COUNCIL MEMBER MONICA MONTGOMERY

Mark Kersey
COUNCIL MEMBER MARK KERSEY

Chris Cate
COUNCIL MEMBER CHRIS CATE

Scott Sherman
COUNCIL MEMBER SCOTT SHERMAN

John Moreno
COUNCIL MEMBER JOHN MORENO

Kevin L. Faulconer
MAYOR KEVIN L. FAULCONER

Approved by Council on the 17 Day of November, 2020.