

RESOLUTION 343(20)

December 9, 2020

WHEREAS, Cervical Health Awareness Month is a chance to raise awareness about how women can protect themselves from human papillomavirus (HPV) and cervical cancer; and

WHEREAS, according to the American Cancer Society, it is estimated that nearly 13,800 new cases of invasive cervical cancer will be diagnosed in the United States and approximately 4,290 women will die from the disease in 2020 including 110 deaths from New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, cervical cancer tends to occur in midlife; half of the women diagnosed with the disease are between 35 and 44 years of age. It rarely affects women under age 20 and approximately 20 percent of diagnoses are made in women older than 65; and

WHEREAS, HPV is found in about 99% of cervical cancers. There are more than one-hundred different types of HPV, most of which are considered low-risk and do not cause cervical cancer; and

WHEREAS, cervical cancer was once one of the most common causes of cancer death for American women. Cervical pre-cancers are diagnosed far more often than invasive cervical cancer; and

WHEREAS, the cervical cancer death rate dropped significantly with the increased use of the Pap test. This screening procedure can find changes in the cervix before cancer develops. It can also find cervical cancer early – when it's small and easier to cure. Screening should begin at age 25. Those aged 25 to 65 should have a primary HPV test every 5 years; and

WHEREAS, the Ocean County Health Department continues to promote the HPV vaccination through several venues, including promotion through school nurses, immunization requirement letters to parents, and other relevant sources.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ocean County Board of Health does hereby proclaim January 2021 as Cervical Health Awareness Month and encourages all our citizens to recognize that cervical cancer is preventable, and to encourage and support the women in our lives in taking charge of their health and availing themselves of the tests and vaccines that have proven so effective in preventing cervical cancer. We have the means to prevent this disease; it is incumbent on all of us to insure we have the will to do so.

Name	Bacchione	Blake	Crea	Hill	Laureigh	Mancini	Scaturro	Singer	Mallon
Ayes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Abstain									
Nays									
Absent						✓			


Secretary/Treasurer