

**COUNTY OF TIOGA  
EXECUTIVE PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS: Breastfeeding provides infants with a healthy start to life that lasts a lifetime; and

WHEREAS: Breast milk is known as the perfect food for infants, containing vital nutrients that protect against multiple diseases including, asthma, childhood leukemia, childhood obesity, and type II diabetes; and

WHEREAS: Research shows that if 90% of families exclusively breastfed during the first six months of life, nearly 1,000 infant deaths could be prevented annually; and

WHEREAS: According to 2018-2019 data, 17.2% of WIC infants were breastfed exclusively at least six months of age in Tioga County; and

WHEREAS: Most mothers want to breastfeed, but stop early due to lack of family support and resources including unsupportive workplace policies and cultural norms; and

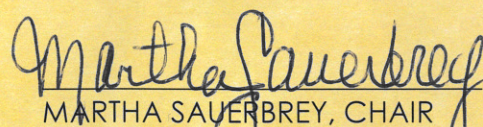
WHEREAS: Acknowledging barriers faced by mothers that prevent them from breastfeeding is an important first step towards increasing rates in Tioga County and improving the health outcomes of our children; and

The TIOGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE, County of Tioga, does hereby proclaim the month of August as:

**BREASTFEEDING AWARENESS MONTH**

And urges families to seek support from community resources, such as Tioga County WIC and Tioga County Public Health, if they are struggling to breastfeed.

Dated: August 11, 2020

  
MARTHA SAUERBREY, CHAIR  
TIOGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE

