

# PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), including chronic bronchitis and emphysema, is the third leading cause of death in the United States and is the only one of the top five causes of death in which the prevalence and death rate are rising; and

**WHEREAS**, COPD is a chronic and progressive disease that affects over 30 million individuals in the U.S., half of whom have not been properly diagnosed; and

**WHEREAS**, a diagnostic test for COPD, known as spirometry provides early diagnosis and is available for office use, yet many patients suffering with COPD are not diagnosed until they have reached an advanced stage of COPD; and

**WHEREAS**, the major risk factor for COPD is smoking, with additional risk factors including environmental exposure to air pollution, industrial irritants and burned biomass fuels; and

**WHEREAS**, COPD can also result from genetic conditions, such as Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency; and

**WHEREAS**, COPD is considered to be the second leading cause of disability in the nation; and

**WHEREAS**, the annual cost to the nation in 2015 was estimated to be over \$50 billion; and

**WHEREAS**, increased public awareness, early detection and treatment are crucial in the prevention or slowing of the progression of lung disease and can lead to reduced costs and better quality of life for our residents;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Pima County Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims the month of November 2016, to be:

## **“COPD AWARENESS MONTH”**

and encourages all residents of Pima County to learn more about the prevention and treatment of COPD.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 22nd day of November 2016.

---

The Honorable Sharon Bronson, Chair  
Pima County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

---

Robin Brigode, Clerk  
Pima County Board of Supervisors