

WHEREAS, there is a global epidemic of blindness from glaucoma, the symptom-less and irreparable slow death of the optic nerve, and the profile of those at the highest risk for contracting the disease closely resembles the culturally diverse communities in the Silicon Valley; and

WHEREAS, one of the best hopes of finding a cure for glaucoma was born from the entrepreneurial spirit of Silicon Valley, and this month the Bay Area's Glaucoma Research Foundation (GRF), the nation's leading investor in innovative glaucoma research (outside of academia, government and industry), celebrates its 30th anniversary; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Art Takahara, the Glaucoma Research Foundation recently launched its first national affiliate with its new Silicon Valley chapter, and a mission to provide a forum for residents of Silicon Valley to keep abreast of current glaucoma research and to contribute to GRF resources; and

WHEREAS, Glaucoma Research Foundation's Catalyst For a Cure (CFC) was the inspiration of Steven and Michael Kirsch through the Kirsch Foundation; CFC draws on the promise of neuroscience and genetics, recognizing that traditional ophthalmic approaches are well covered, and brings together laboratories from four prestigious universities to work in real time collaboration, forsaking the way of single scientists working in isolation; and

WHEREAS, on the occasion of the Foundation's 30th anniversary, the long successful Pilot Projects program offering one-year grants to explore promising and novel ideas is being expanded and renamed in honor of GRF's founder as the Shaffer Fund for Innovative Glaucoma Research;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Clara, State of California does hereby honor and commend the

Glaucoma Research Foundation

for 30 years of funding innovative research and providing outstanding educational resources to those concerned with glaucoma.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this Twenty Ninth Day of January, Two Thousand Eight by unanimous vote.

Pete McHugh, Chair
Board of Supervisors

Donald F. Gage
Supervisor, District One

Blanca Alvarado
Supervisor, District Two

Ken Yeager
Supervisor, District Four

Liz Kniss
Supervisor, District Five

Attest: Phyllis A. Perez
Clerk, Board of Supervisors