



**PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING
KAREN BUTLER
FOR 30 YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO THE CITIZENS
OF
SUMMIT COUNTY UTAH**

Whereas, Karen was born in Saratoga, California. Karen’s love of the outdoors led her to Utah to pursue her degree. Karen received her Bachelor’s Degree at the University of Utah in 1980 and Masters in Speech Therapy in 1983 at the University of Nevada. Karen is married to Charlie and has a daughter, Alex. Karen has a wonderful dog, Jessie, who she loves to spend time within the outdoors. You will often find Karen hiking around Summit County with Jessie; and

Whereas, Karen has always been a trailblazer in the speech therapy field for the past thirty-six years. Karen started her pediatric speech therapy career at Jordan Valley School District. Karen was a pioneer for early intervention and continued her career in Summit County. Karen was the first speech therapist that was involved in a pilot program for early intervention in the State of Utah through the Department of Health. Karen continued to set new standards for future therapists by providing in home services while riding an electric bike from home to home. She laid the framework for all speech therapists in the State and our program wouldn’t have grown the way it has without her hand work and diligence; and

Whereas, Karen’s caring nature has positively shaped the communities she has served. Karen was one of the first speech therapists to provide services in rural southern Utah for five years until a permanent speech therapist was hired. Karen spent countless hours driving and providing in home services in Grand and Carbon Counties. She trained families using the Hannon program. Without her services, families would not have received the care that they needed; and

Whereas, Karen was instrumental as a parent coach to our families. Karen educated our team how to observe, reflect and provide support to the child’s participation in family and community activities. Karen guided our program into parent coaching and the benefits it provided to our families. Karen’s knowledge is extensive in autism and neurological conditions; and

Whereas, Karen’s love of the outdoors is still very much a part of who she is as a person. She can be found on the mountains skiing, biking or hiking. Karen has a love for nature. She loves to be on the river either paddle boarding or kayaking. She is passionate about taking care of our outdoor spaces and preserving the natural beauty of our home. She is constantly looking for ways that we can be more sustainable as a community and as individuals; and

Whereas, Karen loves to cook and garden. Karen is an avid reader. Karen sews and knits. Karen loves to travel and will continue her pursuits around the world. Karen loves to spend time in Lake Tahoe in the summer.

Whereas, Karen will miss the children and families in the Summit County Early Intervention Program. Karen changed the lives of children and families by encouraging them to remember that anything is possible! Helen Keller once said, “Believe you can and you’re halfway there;” and

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Summit County Council does hereby recognize the retirement of Karen Butler and thanks her for her contributions to the County, for her continued support of employees, and her commitment to making Summit County an all-around better place for those who live in and visit here.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 6th day of April 2022.
SUMMIT COUNTY COUNCIL

Chris Robinson, Chair

Roger Armstrong, Vice Chair

Malena Stevens

Glenn Wright

Doug Clyde

Evelyn Furse, Clerk