

# PROCLAMATION

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING MAY 2021 AS

*Asian American, Native Hawaiian, & Pacific Islanders (AANHPI) Heritage Month*

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*WHEREAS, the AANHPI community is among the fastest growing and most diverse racial groups in the United States, comprising 32.1 % of residents of San Mateo County; and*

*WHEREAS, our AANHPI population is severely under-resourced and underrepresented in behavioral health research, workforce, and policy discussions; and*

*WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has disproportionately impacted AANHPI communities, in addressing mental health and substance use challenges among AANHPI residents; and*

*WHEREAS, AANHPI use of behavioral health services is at the lowest rates among systemically minoritized populations. This is attributed to cultural stigma, limited behavioral health literacy, a shortage of linguistically appropriate and culturally attuned service providers, and a dearth of culturally sensitive outreach and programming; and*

*WHEREAS, the AANHPI population suffered an increase in hate incidents in the COVID-19 pandemic. Previous incidents of racism against the community includes the internment of 8,000 Japanese Americans at the Tanforan Racetrack in San Bruno in 1942 and the Southwood community in South San Francisco which voted against a Chinese American family moving into the neighborhood in 1952; and*

*WHEREAS, the San Mateo County Behavioral Health & Recovery Services Health Equity Initiatives, the Chinese Health Initiative, Filipino Mental Health Initiative and Pacific Islander Initiative, are working together to unify and amplify voices of our respective and collective communities toward wellness and equity; and*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, hereby designates the month of May 2021 as Asian American, Native Hawaiian, & Pacific Islanders (AANHPI) Heritage Month and calls upon San Mateo County community to address the behavioral health inequities of our AANHPI community in San Mateo County through financial, legal, socio-political measures. Additionally, the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo commits to listening to the Asian American voice and presence, the Native Hawaiian voice and presence, and the Pacific Islander voice and presence to be heard and consulted in all matters related to our AANHPI community.*

**Dated:**

SUPERVISORS:

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DAVID J. CANEPA, PRESIDENT

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DAVE PINE

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CAROLE GROOM

\_\_\_\_\_  
DON HORSLEY

\_\_\_\_\_  
WARREN SLOCUM

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors