

RESOLUTION NO. .

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE REDUCTION OF THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WITH MENTAL ILLNESSES IN JAILS THROUGH JAIL DIVERSION, PROGRAMMING AND PARTICIPATION IN THE STEPPING UP INITIATIVE.

RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, that

WHEREAS, California counties routinely provide treatment services to the estimated two million people with serious mental illnesses booked into jail each year;

WHEREAS, prevalence rates of serious mental illnesses in jails are three to six times higher than for the general population;

WHEREAS, almost three-quarters of adults with serious mental illnesses in jails have co-occurring substance use disorders;

WHEREAS, adults with mental illnesses tend to stay longer in jail and upon release are at a higher risk of recidivism than people without these disorders;

WHEREAS, county jails spend two to three times more on adults with mental illnesses that require interventions compared to those without these treatment needs;

WHEREAS, without the appropriate treatment and services, people with mental illnesses continue to cycle through the criminal justice system, often resulting in tragic outcomes for these individuals and their families;

WHEREAS, the County of San Mateo and all counties take pride in their

responsibility to protect and enhance the health, welfare and safety of their residents in efficient and cost-effective ways;

WHEREAS, the County has developed its Service Connect Reentry Centers, Specialty Courts, and various supportive housing and treatment programs, all of which help people stay out of jail by offering mental health and substance use disorder treatment services;

WHEREAS, through the *Stepping Up* initiative, the National Association of Counties, the Council of State Governments Justice Center, and the American Psychiatric Foundation are encouraging public, private and nonprofit partners to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in jails;

WHEREAS, the *Stepping Up* initiative encourages utilizing the comprehensive resources available through *Stepping Up* to enable participants to:

- Convene or draw on a diverse team of leaders and decision makers from multiple agencies committed to safely reducing the number of people with mental illnesses in jails;
- Collect and review prevalence numbers and assess individuals' needs to better identify adults entering jails with mental illnesses and their recidivism risk, and use that baseline information to guide decision making;
- Examine treatment and service capacity to determine which programs and services are available in the county for people with mental illnesses and co-occurring substance use disorders, and identify state and local policy and funding barriers to minimizing contact with the justice system and providing treatment and

supports in the community;

- Develop a plan with measurable outcomes that draws on the needs and prevalence assessment data and examination of available treatment and service capacity, while considering identified barriers;
- Implement research-based approaches that advance the plan; and
- Create a process to track progress using data and information systems, and to report on successes.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Supervisors do hereby approve the County of San Mateo to sign on to the call to action to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in our county jail, commit to sharing lessons learned with other counties in the state and across the country to support a national initiative and encourage all county officials, employees and residents to participate in *Stepping Up*.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DETERMINED AND ORDERED that the Board of Supervisors

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RESOLUTION NUMBER: .

Regularly passed and adopted this DAY of MONTH, YEAR

AYES and in favor of said resolution:

Supervisors: _____

NOES and against said resolution:

Supervisors: _____

Absent Supervisors: _____

*President, Board of Supervisors
County of San Mateo
State of California*

Certificate of Delivery

I certify that a copy of the original resolution filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of San Mateo County has been delivered to the President of the Board of Supervisors.

Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors