



**THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING  
MAY 2025 AS**

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

**WHEREAS**, the AA & NHPI communities are among the fastest growing and most diverse racial groups in the United States. AA & NHPI have made significant economic, political, and social contributions, and, according to the 2024 Census Population estimates, Asian Americans are 33.1% & Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islanders are 1.4% of residents of San Mateo County; and

**WHEREAS**, behavioral health challenges impact people of all demographics, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, age, and religion; and approximately one in four people in the world have a behavioral health condition in their lifetime, which can impair one's ability to work, pursue an education, enjoy healthy relationships, contribute to, and participate in the community, and live a fulfilling life. In the Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander community, feelings of chronic sadness and hopelessness were highest among in 2021-2023 & rates of suicide are highest among Pacific Islanders in the 7th grade; and

**WHEREAS**, May 20th is Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander Mental Health Day in San Mateo County which calls attention to the fact that AANHPI communities use behavioral health services at low rates among systematically marginalized populations. This is attributed to cultural stigma, limited behavioral health literacy, a shortage of linguistically appropriate and culturally attuned service providers, and limitations around culturally sensitive outreach and programming; and

**WHEREAS**, our Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander population is severely under-resourced and underrepresented in the behavioral health research, workforce, policy discussions, culturally and linguistically responsive resources, and access; and

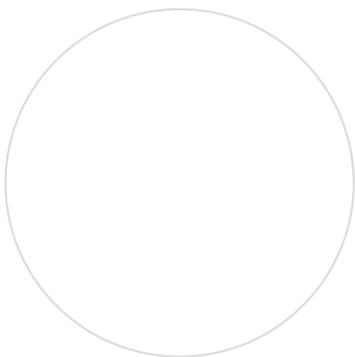
**WHEREAS**, the Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander population suffered an increase in violent attacks and hate incidents compounding the stressors experienced even before the global health crisis of COVID-19. In 2022 nearly half of California AANHPI adults report everyday experiences with discrimination and 20% of Asian adults reported experience as a victim of a hate incident or crime; and

**WHEREAS**, community building and promotion of existing cultural or indigenous wellness practices, strengthens resilience and lessens the negative impacts of behavioral health conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, the San Mateo County Behavioral Health & Recovery Services Office of Diversity and Equity's 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 advocating for the creation of policies and opportunities that address the increased health disparities among Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander communities.

**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 2025 as Asian American, Native Hawaiian, & Pacific Islanders (AANHPI) Heritage Month and calls upon San Mateo County residents, public and private institutions, and the collective community to commit to purposefully, with cultural humility, address the behavioral health inequities and needs of our AANHPI community in San Mateo County through financial, legal, social, and political measures. In addition, the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo commits to providing a seat at every table for the Asian American voice and presence, the Native Hawaiian voice and presence, and the Pacific Islander voice and presence to be heard, seen, and consulted in all matters related to our AANHPI community locally, nationally, and globally.

**Dated: May 20, 2025**



**SUPERVISORS:**

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DAVID J. CANEPA, PRESIDENT

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JACKIE SPEIER

\_\_\_\_\_  
NOELIA CORZO

\_\_\_\_\_  
RAY MUELLER

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS