

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF

## May 2017 Mental Health Awareness Month

**WHEREAS**, mental health and freedom from addictions is fundamental to the overall health and wellbeing of all residents in San Mateo County; and

**WHEREAS**, mental health conditions affect one in four people in the world at some point in their lives, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, religion, or economic status; and

WHEREAS, mental health conditions are one of the leading causes of disabilities in the United States; and

WHEREAS, mental health and substance use conditions are as treatable as other health conditions, and people who have mental health and addiction issues can recover and lead full, productive lives; and

**WHEREAS**, nationally, an estimated two-thirds of adults and youth with a diagnosable mental health condition are not receiving the help they need; and

WHEREAS, stigma and fear of discrimination from others, including employers and property owners, prevent many who would benefit from mental health services from seeking help, and public education about mental and substance use conditions, and the sharing of personal stories can change negative attitudes and behaviors toward people with mental health conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, the behavioral health professionals of San Mateo County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services and its community partners have dedicated themselves to promoting wellness, recovery and equity by reducing stigma and discrimination around mental health, addiction and co-occurring conditions.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, hereby designates the month of May 2017 as Mental Health Awareness Month and calls upon the residents, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses and schools in San Mateo County to recommit to increasing awareness and understanding of mental health and addiction, reducing stigma and discrimination, and promoting appropriate and accessible services for all people with mental health and substance use conditions.

Dated: April 25th, 2017

SUPERVISORS:

DON HORSLEY, PRESIDENT

DAVE PINE

CAROLE GROOM

WARREN SLOCUM

DAVID J. CANEPA

Attest:

Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors