

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
ACTION AGENDA SUMMARY

DEPT: Behavioral Health and Recovery Services

BOARD AGENDA #*A-4a

Urgent

Routine

AGENDA DATE May 1, 2012

CEO Concurs with Recommendation YES NO
(Information Attached)

4/5 Vote Required YES NO

SUBJECT:

Approval to Proclaim May 2012 as Mental Health Month in Stanislaus County

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Approve the proclamation of May 2012 as Mental Health Month in Stanislaus County

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2012-200

On motion of Supervisor Withrow, Seconded by Supervisor Chiesa

and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: Chiesa, Withrow, Monteith, De Martini, and Chairman O'Brien

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

1) Approved as recommended

2) Denied

3) Approved as amended

4) Other:

MOTION:



ATTEST: CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN, Clerk

File No.

DISCUSSION:

Family members and friends. Children and the elderly. Rich and poor. Mental illness can affect anyone - no matter what age, sex, gender or ethnic background. That is why it's important to recognize Mental Health Month and bring the issues and challenges surrounding mental health to the forefront.

This May, it is more important than ever that our community understand the role that local programs play in improving the lives of the nearly 1 in 4 individuals in Stanislaus County who report needing help with a mental or emotional health problem. The consequences of mental illness for the individual and society can be staggering: unnecessary disability, unemployment, substance abuse, homelessness, inappropriate incarceration, suicide and wasted lives.

Fortunately, in California, there exists the Mental Health Services Act, which was passed as Proposition 63 by California voters in November 2004 to provide funding for a different approach to treating mental illness. Proposition 63 is responsible for a major shift in the way California provides mental health services - away from a model that provided primarily crisis care and costly institutionalization, and toward a new system that includes a focus on wellness, recovery, prevention and early intervention. By emphasizing a "help first" rather than "fail first" approach, the services it funds are reducing homelessness, acute psychiatric hospitalizations, arrests and incarcerations.

By designating May "Mental Health Month", Behavioral Health and Recovery Services and the Stanislaus County Mental Health Board are seeking to remove the barriers to seeking and receiving appropriate care, to encourage individuals to get help and to support those individuals in recovery. One specific goal of Mental Health Month this year is to challenge individuals to consider their views toward mental illnesses, and respect those who live with these disorders. All must work together to eliminate the stigma too often associated with these disorders.

May is Mental Health Month is a time to acknowledge the importance of mental health and take action to ensure that individuals with mental illnesses have access to the care, treatment and prevention services they need. Barriers such as stigma, misunderstanding and discrimination can be eliminated by recognizing that mental illnesses are real, common and treatable.

STAFFING IMPACTS:

There are no staffing impacts associated with this item.

CONTACT PERSON:

Madelyn Schlaepfer, Director. Telephone 525-6225

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Date: May 1, 2012

No. 2012-200

On motion of Supervisor Withrow Seconded by Supervisor Chiesa
and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: Chiesa, Withrow, Monteith, De Martini, and Chairman O'Brien

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED:

Item # *A-4a

IN RE: PROCLAIMING MAY, 2012 AS MENTAL HEALTH MONTH IN STANISLAUS COUNTY

Whereas, the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors has recognized healthy communities as a priority, and

Whereas, mental health is critical for every person's well being as well as that of our families, communities and businesses, and

Whereas, mental disorders affect all people, regardless of race, age, gender or social status, and

Whereas, within the next year, at least one out of four residents of Stanislaus County will experience a diagnosable mental illness personally or through a family member, and

Whereas, one in 10 children has a serious mental health disorder that, if untreated, can lead to school failure, physical illness, substance abuse and even suicide, and

Whereas, more than a quarter of the members of the Armed Forces suffer from psychological or neurological injuries sustained in combat; and

Whereas, with appropriate treatment and support from family, friends and community, those suffering from a mental illness can recover, and

Whereas, increasing public awareness about mental illness is vital to fighting the stigma and discrimination that often serve as a barrier to treatment, and

Whereas, mentally healthy people enjoy life, feel good about themselves, are able to meet challenges and changes of life, and

Whereas, Behavioral Health and Recovery Services and the Stanislaus County Mental Health Board are supporting May as Mental Health Month.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors does hereby proclaim May 2012 as Mental Health Month in Stanislaus County.

ATTEST: CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN, Clerk
Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors,
State of California

Christine Ferraro

File No.