

Proclamation
OF THE EL DORADO COUNTY AFFILIATE
NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON MENTAL ILLNESS (NAMI)

Recognizing
Police Chief David Stevenson
May 10, 2022

WHEREAS, mental health is essential to the overall health of every individual in our county, nonetheless mental illness will affect nearly one in five adults and children in a given year and often law enforcement responds first to individuals in mental health crisis; and

WHEREAS, Police Chief Stevenson consistently demonstrates law enforcement's best practices when addressing the needs of our county's mentally ill population; and

WHEREAS, Police Chief Stevenson has established a multi-disciplinary, inclusive, and collaborative approach to law enforcement and mental health; and

WHEREAS, Police Chief Stevenson's leadership in forming the Department's first full time Homeless Outreach Team serves as an example to law enforcement throughout the county; and

WHEREAS, Police Chief Stevenson's commitment to creating support for individuals in crisis by collaborating with El Dorado County Behavioral Health to form a Psychiatric Emergency Response Team reflects his dedication to meeting the community's needs; and

WHEREAS, Police Chief Stevenson's committing a full time officer to the newly formed South Tahoe Alternative Collaborative Services demonstrates his desire to find solutions to complex problems; and

WHEREAS, Police Chief Stevenson's positive community-oriented collaboration strengthens the effective relationships between county agencies, first responders and the county's mental health communities so we can reduce barriers to services and create long term stabilization for our community's homeless and mentally ill;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Board of Directors of the El Dorado County affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) does hereby recognize Police Chief David Stevenson of the South Lake Tahoe Police Department. Chief Stevenson's leadership, problem solving, and collaboration are examples to law enforcement, first responders, Behavioral Health, Health Care and the mental health community. This Proclamation is concurrent with the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors Proclamation establishing May 2022 as Mental Health Month and calls upon all citizens, governmental agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, hospitals and schools in El Dorado County to increase public awareness of the importance of mental health, promote greater understanding and hope for those who live with mental illness to reduce stigma and discrimination, and pay tribute to all who devote their skill and expertise to the cause of better mental health for our citizens.

Passed unanimously by the Board of Directors of the El Dorado County Affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) at a meeting of said Board, held the 13th day of April, 2022.

By,

Diane Rabinowitz, President, NAMI El Dorado County for the entire Board of Directors