



## **PROCLAMATION**

OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF EL DORADO

### **Recognizing May 2023 as MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH**

**WHEREAS**, mental illness will affect nearly one in five adults and children in a given year, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, socio-economic status, or religion; and

**WHEREAS**, mental health is essential to the overall health of every individual in our community; and

**WHEREAS**, mental health conditions are real and prevalent in our County with many individuals experiencing times of difficulty and stress in their lives; and

**WHEREAS**, the Public Health Emergency, related to the Coronavirus, has had an impact on the mental health and resiliency of El Dorado County residents; and

**WHEREAS**, mental illness among children, adults, and older adults is a condition deserving priority attention, including prevention and early intervention services and medical and supportive care; and

**WHEREAS**, through effective prevention, early intervention and treatment, individuals with mental health conditions can maximize the opportunities for resiliency and positive change; and

**WHEREAS**, the cost of untreated mental illness and addictive disorders to American businesses, governments and families has grown to \$100 billion annually; and

**WHEREAS**, the stigma of mental illness deprives many people from seeking mental health services they need and deserve to fully enjoy a quality of life in their community; and

**WHEREAS**, research shows that the most effective way to reduce stigma is through personal contact with someone with mental illness; and

**WHEREAS**, greater public awareness about mental illness can change negative attitudes and behaviors toward people with mental illness; and

**WHEREAS**, through honest, respectful communication, education, and positive community-oriented collaboration, we can break down stigma and provide recovery-oriented mental health services throughout the County.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** that the Board of Supervisors of the County of El Dorado does hereby proclaim May 2023 as Mental Health Awareness 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** by the Board of Supervisors of the County of El Dorado at a regular meeting of said Board, held the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of May 2023.

**Attest:**  
Kim Dawson  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_ Wendy Thomas, Chair, Board of Supervisors