

## **Proclamation**

## of the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors Recognizing May, 2016 as MENTAL HEALTH 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 our community and every individual; 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, mental illness 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 and fear of mental illness often deprives many people from seeking the 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 illnesses 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 RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors, of the County of El Dorado, does hereby proclaim May, 2016 as Mental Health Month and calls upon all citizens, governmental agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, hospitals and schools, in the County of El Dorado, 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 AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Supervisors of the County of El Dorado at a regular meeting of said Board, held the 17<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2016.

Attest:

James S. Mitrisin

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

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Chair, Board of Supervisors