

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

DEPT: Board of Supervisors

BOARD AGENDA # \*A-2c

Urgent  Routine

AGENDA DATE April 27, 2010

CEO Concurs with Recommendation YES  NO   
(Information Attached)

4/5 Vote Required YES  NO

SUBJECT:

Approval to Proclaim May 2010 as Mental Health Month in Stanislaus County

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Proclaim May 2010 as Mental Health Month in Stanislaus County.

Contact Person: Christine Ferraro Tallman

Phone Number: 525-4494

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2010-223

On motion of Supervisor Chiesa, Seconded by Supervisor DeMartini

and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: O'Brien, Chiesa, Monteith, DeMartini, and Chairman Grover

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:**

Designating May "Mental Health Month" is an awareness effort to dispel misconceptions about mental illness, gain equal treatment for people with mental illness and celebrate mental health. Since 1949, Mental Health Month has raised public awareness of the importance of mental health and the reality of mental illness.

At least one out of five Californians experience a diagnosable mental illness personally or through a family member regardless of race, age, creed, sex or socioeconomic status. Yet, two thirds of individuals who suffer from a mental illness never seek help due to stigma and the lack of mental health knowledge associated with a mental health disorder. Mental Health is critical for every person's well being as well as that of our families, communities and businesses. 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.

Behavioral Health and Recovery Services is sponsoring the following events in Stanislaus County in recognition of Mental Health Month.

- Behavioral Health Summit 2010, *Leadership for Community Results*
- Results Based Accountability Training
- Day of Hope

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.

**POLICY ISSUE:**

The Board of Supervisors must determine the merits of proclaiming May as "Mental Health Month" in an effort to make the public aware of mental health issues and celebrate mental health. Approval of the proclamation supports the Board's priority of ensuring a healthy community.

**STAFFING IMPACTS:**

There are no staffing impacts associated with this item.

IN RE:PROCLAIMING MAY, 2010 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 five Californians 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, 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 events commemorating May as Mental Health Month.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors does hereby proclaim May 2010 as Mental Health Month in Stanislaus County.