

2019 RES-042
RECOGNIZING MAY AS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS Mental Health Awareness Month has been observed in May in the United States since 1949, with the goal of reaching millions of people to fight the stigma, provide support, and educate the public about effective ways to reduce the burden, and effectively treat, those suffering with mental health conditions; and

WHEREAS mental health is essential to everyone's overall health and well-being, and an estimated one in six adults in the United States lives with a mental illness; in Dane County, the number of adults with any mental illness is estimated at over 77,500, and an estimated 16,500 suffer from serious mental illness; and

WHEREAS Dane County provides treatment services to both adults and children with serious mental illnesses, is continually seeking approaches to work with the community, local health care providers, and national partners to meet the needs of those with mental illness, as well as to reduce the number of individuals with mental illness in jail.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Dane County recognizes May 2019 as Mental Health Awareness Month and looks forward to working with county residents; the federal, state, and other local governments; our local hospitals and clinics; and the Dane County school districts, UW Madison, Madison College and other institutions of higher education to recommit to our community to increasing awareness and understanding of mental health, and to seek to address the need for appropriate and accessible services for all people with mental health conditions.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be presented to the National Alliance on Mental Illness Dane County in recognition of its role in increasing public awareness and advocating for those suffering with mental health conditions.