

2022 RES-044
RECOGNIZING MAY 2022 AS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, Mental Health Awareness Month has been observed in the U.S. since 1949; and

WHEREAS, there is a proven connection between good mental health and overall personal health; and

WHEREAS, NAMI is amplifying the message of, "Together for Mental Health" in order to bring voices together and advocate for mental health and access to care; and

WHEREAS, more than 51 million adults in the United States face the reality of managing a mental illness everyday and 17% of youth aged 6-17 experience a mental health condition each year; and

WHEREAS, annually, mental illness affects 14% of Asian adults, 17% of Black adults, 17% of Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander adults, 18% of Hispanic/Latinx adults, 19% of American Indian/Alaska Native adults, 36% of multiracial adults, and 47% of LBG adults; and

WHEREAS, the suicide rate has increased 35% since 1999 and in the fall of 2020, the National Suicide Hotline Designation Act was passed by Congress establishing 988 as a three-digit nationwide mental health and suicidal crisis number to be available in communities by July 2022; and

WHEREAS, people with mental illnesses recover if given the necessary services and supports in their communities; and

WHEREAS, people with mental illnesses make important contributions to Dane County families, communities, and businesses; and

WHEREAS, the average delay between onset of mental illness and symptoms and treatment is 11 years; stigma and fear of discrimination keep many who would benefit from mental health services from seeking help; and

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

WHEREAS, taking on the challenges of mental health conditions, health coverage, and erasing the stigma around mental illness requires all of us.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Dane County Board of Supervisors recognizes May 2022 as Mental Health Awareness Month.

Patrick Miles, Chair
Dane County Board of Supervisors

Signed and sealed before me this
_____ day of _____, 2022.

Scott McDonell,
Dane County Clerk