

*The Board of Supervisors of
Contra Costa County, California*

In the matter of:

Resolution No. 2011/54

Declaring February 13-19, 2011 as PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK

WHEREAS, the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors declares February 13-19, 2011 as PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK in Contra Costa County; and
WHEREAS, there is a need to support the recovery process of clients/consumers and family members struggling with the challenges of mental health issues through the delivery of culturally responsive services; including but not limited to community defined practices; and
WHEREAS, mental health issues are among the leading causes of disability in America; and
WHEREAS, the United Nations Declared 2011 “The International Year of People of African Descent”; and
WHEREAS, the 1999 Surgeon General’s Report identified African American as one of the four major ethnic groups experiencing mental health disparities in this nation. The report cites African American mental health clients and consumers as often being served inappropriately and in the most restrictive settings with poor outcomes; and
WHEREAS, Contra Costa Mental Health Division in an effort to respond to the concerns has been one of the pioneering counties to heed the voice of the African American community by embarking upon a utilization study to identify barriers and develop strategies and explore resources and tools that will enhance restoration of mental health wellness; and
WHEREAS, consumers, family members, providers, spiritual leaders and all other interested stakeholders can participate in efforts to unite in a collective effort to replace misinformation about mental health, erase prejudice, fear and blame thereby reducing stigma and disparities to the African American community.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the proclamation of February 13- 19, 2011 as People of African Descent Mental Health Awareness Week and encourages all citizens to participate in this important cause.

GAYLE B. UILKEMA

Chair,
District II Supervisor

JOHN GIOIA

District I Supervisor

MARY N. PIEPHO

District III Supervisor

KAREN MITCHOFF

District IV Supervisor

FEDERAL D. GLOVER

District V Supervisor

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown.

ATTESTED: February 8, 2011

David J. Twa,

By: _____, Deputy