

The Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County, California

In the matter of declaring February 15-21, 2015 as "People of African Descent Mental Health Awareness Week" and February 20, 2015 as "I'm A Winner Day" in Contra Costa County

Resolution No. 2015/52

WHEREAS, there is a need to support the recovery process of African American 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 1999 Surgeon General's Report identified African Americans 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, resulting in poor outcomes; and

WHEREAS, Contra Costa County Mental Health Services Department in an effort to respond to the concerns of this population has heeded the voice of the African American community by supporting a training on February 20, 2015, called "I'm a Winner Day", through collaboration with the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Contra Costa County and the Mental Health and Faith Consortium of Contra Costa County that is designed to empower the community, celebrate Black History Month, and highlight tools that will enhance restoration of mental health and wellness; and

WHEREAS, clients/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 that the Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County does hereby declare February 15- 21, 2015 as "People of African Descent Mental Health Awareness Week" and February 20, 2015 as "I'm A Winner Day", and encourages all residents to support consumers, clients, caregivers, and healthcare providers in their efforts to alleviate suffering and help all those affected by mental illness.

PASSED by a unanimous vote of the Board of Supervisors members present this 10th day of February, 2015.


JOHN GIOIA

Chair,
District I Supervisor

ABSENT

CANDACE ANDERSEN

District II 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 10, 2015

DAVID TWA, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors and County Administrator

By Stephanie L. Mello, Deputy

Introduced by Supervisors Gioia and Glover