

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

421A



FROM: Director of Mental Health

SUBMITTAL DATE: April 28, 2004

SUBJECT: Mental Health Department sponsored Proclamation;
"May is Mental Health Month"

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Move that the Board of Supervisors proclaim May 2004, as "Mental Health Month"

BACKGROUND: The Department of Mental Health requests that May 2004, be designated as "Mental Health Month" in Riverside County to focus attention on the pervasiveness of mental illness and to raise public awareness of mental health, mental illness, and the need for appropriate, accessible services for all people with mental illness.


John J. Ryan, Director
Department of Mental Health

JJR:KS

FINANCIAL DATA:

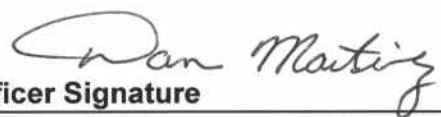
CURRENT YEAR COST: \$0
NET COUNTY COST: \$0

ANNUAL COST: \$0
IN CURRENT YEAR BUDGET: N/A
BUDGET ADJUSTMENT: NO FY 03/04

SOURCE OF FUNDS: N/A

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVE



County Executive Officer Signature

Department Recommendation: Consent Policy
Per Executive Office: Consent Policy

Prev. Agn. ref.
05/05/2003, Item #2.16

Dist. All

AGENDA NO.

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PROCLAMATION

MAY IS MENTAL HEALTH MONTH

WHEREAS, mental health is critical for our well-being and vitality as well as that of our families, communities, and businesses; and,

WHEREAS, the President's New Freedom Commission has declared that mental health disorders and mental health problems affect people of all backgrounds and all stages of life, and no one is immune; and,

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization found that mental illnesses rank first in terms of causing disability in the United States and, collectively, are the most prevalent health problem in America today, more common than cancer, lung and heart disease combined; and,

WHEREAS, one in ten children has a serious mental health disorder that, if untreated, can lead to school failure, physical illness, substance abuse, and even suicide; and,

WHEREAS, mental health disorders such as schizophrenia, depression and anxiety disorders are real common, and treatable illnesses; and,

WHEREAS, the Surgeon General has found that a range of mental health treatments of documented efficacy exists for most mental health disorders; and,

WHEREAS, the County of Riverside has made a commitment to community-based systems of mental health for all residents; and,

WHEREAS, the National Mental Health Association, the National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare and their national partners observe Mental Health Month every May to raise awareness and understanding of mental health and illness;

THEREFORE, I, Roy Wilson, do hereby proclaim May 2004, as Mental Health Month in Riverside County. As the Chairperson of the Riverside County Board of Supervisors, I call upon all residents of Riverside County, citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses and schools to recommit our community to increasing awareness and understanding of mental illness and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all people with mental illness.