



# Proclamation

DECLARING MAY 2007

## MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH IN TULARE COUNTY

WHEREAS, mental health is essential to everyone's overall health and well-being and can affect all areas of a person's life including school, home and work; and

WHEREAS, mental health problems will strike one in five adults each year regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, religion or economic status; and

WHEREAS, 10 percent of children and adolescents in the U.S. suffer from serious emotional and mental disorders; and

WHEREAS, about 50 percent of student ages 14 and older with a mental disorder drop out of high school – the highest dropout rate of any disability group; and

WHEREAS, suicide is the third leading cause of death in youth ages 10 to 24, and that 90 percent of people who die by suicide suffer from a diagnosable and treatable mental illness at the time of their death; and

WHEREAS, 70 percent of youth involved in state and local juvenile justice systems throughout the country suffer from mental disorders; and

WHEREAS, an estimated two-thirds of adults and young people with mental health and problems go without the help they need; and

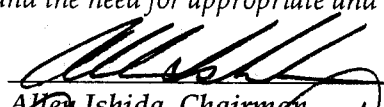
WHEREAS, the cost of untreated and mistreated mental health and substance abuse problems to American businesses, governments and families has grown to \$105 billion annually; and

WHEREAS, each business, school, government agency, healthcare provider, organization and citizen bares the burden of mental health problems and has a responsibility to promote mental wellness; and

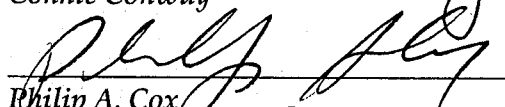
WHEREAS, people can recover from mental illness and lead full, productive lives in the community


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Tulare County Board of Supervisors, do hereby proclaim May 2007 as Mental Health Awareness Month in Tulare County and call upon the citizens, public and private institutions, businesses and schools in Tulare County to recommit our community to increasing awareness and understanding of mental health and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all people with mental illnesses.

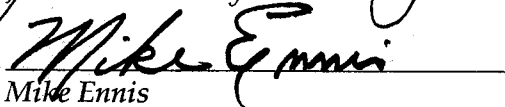


  
Allen Ishida, Chairman

  
Connie Conway

  
Philip A. Cox

  
Steven Worthley

  
Mike Ennis