



Charter Township of Orion

Oakland County, Michigan

Proclamation Mental Health Month

By the Supervisor of the Charter Township of Orion

Whereas, mental health is important for our individual well-being and vitality as well as that of our families, communities and businesses; and

Whereas, one in five Americans will experience a mental health illness that requires treatment at some point in their lives; and

Whereas, one in ten children has a serious emotional disturbance that, if untreated, can lead to school failure, physical illness, substance use, jail and even suicide; and

Whereas, May 7th has been designated the National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day; and

Whereas, May 19th has been designated Mental Health First Aid Training Week in the State of Michigan, recognizing an in-person training that teaches people how to help people developing a mental illness or in a crisis; and

Whereas, stigma and stereotypes associated with mental illnesses can keep people from seeking treatment that could improve their quality of life; and

Whereas, mental illness is a biologically based brain disorder that cannot be overcome through "will power" and is not related to a defect in a person's "character" or intelligence; and

Whereas, mental health recovery is a journey of healing and transformation, enabling people with a mental illness to live in a community of his or her choice while striving to achieve his or her full potential; and

Whereas, mental health recovery not only benefits individuals with mental health disorders by focusing on their abilities to live, work, learn and fully participate and contribute to our society, but also enriches the culture of our community life; and

Whereas, the Oakland County Community Mental Health Authority, and its service provider agencies, are committed to inspiring hope, empowering people, and strengthening communities.

Now, Therefore, I, Chris Barnett, Supervisor of the Charter Township of Orion, do hereby proclaim the month of **May 2015** as "**Mental Health Month**" and call upon our citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses and schools to recommit our State to increasing awareness and understanding of mental illness and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all people with mental illnesses to promote recovery.

Chris Barnett, Supervisor
Charter Township of Orion

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