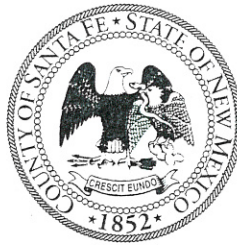


Henry P. Roybal  
Commissioner, District 1

Anna Hansen  
Commissioner, District 2

Robert A. Anaya  
Commissioner, District 3



Anna T. Hamilton  
Commissioner, District 4

Ed Moreno  
Commissioner, District 5

Katherine Miller  
County Manager

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** Wednesday, April 12, 2017  
**TO:** Board of County Commissioners  
**VIA:** Katherine Miller, County Manager  
**FROM:** Julia Valdez, Constituent Services Liaison, Manager's Office  
**RE:** A Proclamation Recognizing May 2017 Mental Health Month  
(Commissioner Moreno)

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### BACKGROUND/SUMMARY

Each year millions of Americans face the reality of living with a mental health condition. During the month of May, participants across the country raise awareness of mental illness. Each year they fight stigma, provide support, educate the public and advocate for equal care.

One in 5 adults experiences a mental health condition every year. One in 17 lives with a serious mental illness such as schizophrenia or bipolar disorder. In addition to a person's directly experiencing a mental illness, family, friends and communities are also affected.

Half of mental health conditions begin by age 14, and 75% of mental health conditions develop by age 24. The normal personality and behavior changes of adolescence may mimic or mask symptoms of a mental health condition. Early engagement and support are crucial to improving outcomes and increasing the promise of recovery.

The Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe County have consistently supported and funded programs and policies that address mental and behavioral issues.

### Action Requested

Commissioner Moreno respectfully requests the Board of County Commissioners support and approve this item.





# SANTA FE COUNTY PROCLAMATION

## THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANTA FE COUNTY

### PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF MAY 2017 AS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, the month of May is designated as National Mental Health Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, mental illness is a leading cause of disability in the United States; and

WHEREAS, nearly 44 million American adults, and millions of children, experience mental health conditions each year, which include depression, anxiety, bipolar, schizophrenia, and post-traumatic stress; and

WHEREAS, one in five adults experiences a mental health problem in any given year and one in 17 adults lives with a mental illness; and

WHEREAS, the New Mexico suicide rate is 59% higher than the United States average; and

WHEREAS, the suicide rate in Santa Fe County is nearly twice the national average; and

WHEREAS, jails and prisons have often become the default places of custodial care for even nonviolent people with serious mental illnesses, which occurs at the Santa Fe County Adult Detention Facility; and

WHEREAS, in 2015 the Board of County Commissioners adopted the Santa Fe County Health Action Plan FY, which focuses County efforts on addressing mental and behavioral health issues including reducing suicide, drug overdose, and alcohol abuse amongst our residents; and

WHEREAS, in 2015 the Santa Fe County Community Services Department committed funds for the development and operation of a Mobile Crisis Response Team to reduce suicide rates in Santa Fe County; and

WHEREAS, in 2016 Santa Fe County held a Behavioral Health Summit to discuss and plan for the development of new services to address mental and behavioral health issues in our County; and

WHEREAS, in 2016 Santa Fe County passed a bond that committed \$2.0 million dollars in capital funds toward the development of a crisis triage center for residents experiencing a behavioral health crisis; and

WHEREAS, Santa Fe County has provided consistent funding for people with mental health disorders in the areas of primary and secondary prevention, as well as treatment; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners and the Santa Fe County Community Services Department have consistently supported and funded programs and policies to address mental and behavioral health issues; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Fe County Mobile Health Van will be conducting free mental health screenings at the Santa Fe Community College, Solana Center, and other locations during the month of May.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe County that the month of May 2017 is:

### MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH



BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED that government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses and schools in Santa Fe County be encouraged to renew the commitment to ridding our society of the stigma associated with mental illness, encourage those living with mental health conditions to get the help they need, and reaffirm our pledge to ensure those who need help have access to the support, acceptance, and resources they deserve.

APPROVED, ADOPTED, AND PASSED ON THIS 2<sup>nd</sup> DAY OF MAY 2017.

Henry P. Roybal  
Chair, Commissioner District 1

Anna Hansen  
Vice-Chair, Commissioner District 2

Robert A. Anaya,  
Commissioner District 3

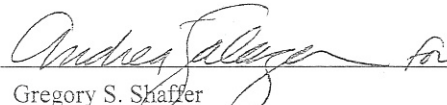
Anna T. Hamilton  
Commissioner District 4

Ed Moreno  
Commissioner District 5

Katherine Miller  
County Manager

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

ATTESTATION:

  
Gregory S. Shaffer  
County Attorney

Geraldine Salazar  
County Clerk



