

Proclamation

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF MAY, 2004 AS

MAY IS MENTAL HEALTH MONTH

PROCLAIMED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, that

WHEREAS, mental illness is a leading cause of disability, both nationally and worldwide, second only to cardiovascular disease in total impact; and

WHEREAS, serious and debilitating mental illness and emotional disturbances affect up to five percent of the adult population and up to ten percent of our youth each year, and one out of every four families has a mentally ill/emotionally disturbed family member; and

WHEREAS, national and state studies consistently find that less than fifty percent of our communities' mental health treatment and support needs are met; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Surgeon General's Report on Mental Health and the President's "New Freedom Commission on Mental Health" found that there are effective treatments for mental illness and that individuals can recover and become contributing members of our communities; and

WHEREAS, stigma and lack of public understanding of mental illness is the single greatest barrier to an individual seeking treatment; and

WHEREAS, national mental health advocacy organizations, including the National Mental Health Association and the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, have designated the month of May as a time to increase public awareness and support for mental health; and

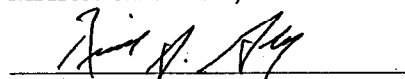
WHEREAS, the San Mateo County Mental Health Board celebrates "May is Mental Health Month" through the annual Tony Hoffman Community Mental Health Service Awards to honor individuals, businesses and organizations that have acted as mental health champions,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the County of San Mateo Board of Supervisors that the month of May, 2004 is hereby designated "MAY IS MENTAL HEALTH MONTH" in San Mateo County and that the Board encourages all citizens of San Mateo County to support the efforts to raise awareness concerning mental health.

DATED: May 4, 2004

SUPERVISORS:


MARK CHURCH, PRESIDENT


RICH GORDON

