

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024- 29**

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF THE  
COUNTY OF SUMMIT  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MAY 2024 AS “MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH” IN SUMMIT COUNTY, COLORADO.**

**WHEREAS**, Summit County Government joins the nation in recognizing May as Mental Health Awareness month; and

**WHEREAS**, every American is affected or impacted by mental health issues either personally or through their friends and family; and

**WHEREAS**, mental illness is one of the leading causes of disabilities in the United States, impacting both the person with the illness and those persons who care for and love the person afflicted; and

**WHEREAS**, an estimated 19.86% of Americans ages 18 and older -- about 1 in 5 adults - - suffers from a diagnosable mental disorder in a given year. Many people suffer from more than one mental disorder at a given time; and

**WHEREAS**, when compared to other Colorado communities, the incidence of substance abuse and mental health indicators is elevated in Summit County and as a result the County is concerned about the impacts of mental illness on the quality of life for our residents; and

**WHEREAS**, although mental illness impacts all people, many of those in lower-income communities receive less care, poorer quality of care, and often lack access to linguistically and culturally accessible care, thereby resulting in mental health disparities; and

**WHEREAS**, encouraging people to speak openly about mental health, can reduce the stigma and encourage individuals and families to receive treatment for mental well-being, just as they would for physical well-being.

**WHEREAS**, nearly two-thirds of all people with a diagnosable mental illness do not receive mental health treatment due to stigma, lack of community-based resources, inadequate diagnosis, or no diagnosis; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to improve public awareness of mental illness and to strengthen local and national awareness, so that all those with mental illness may receive adequate and appropriate treatment and support; and

**WHEREAS**, access to mental health treatment and services is of paramount importance; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to encourage primary care physicians to offer screenings, to partner with mental health care providers, to seek appropriate referrals to specialists, and to encourage timely and accurate diagnoses of mental disorders; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of County Commissioners wishes to enhance public awareness of mental illness.

**NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT MAY 2024 IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED TO BE MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH IN SUMMIT COUNTY, COLORADO.**

**ADOPTED THIS 23<sup>rd</sup> DAY OF APRIL 2024.**



**COUNTY OF SUMMIT  
STATE OF COLORADO  
BY AND THROUGH ITS  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

  
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Tamara Pogue, Chair

**ATTEST:**

  
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Taryn Power, Clerk & Recorder