

A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MAY AS MENTAL HEALTH MONTH IN
WASHTENAW COUNTY

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

April 3, 2002

WHEREAS, mental health is essential to everyone's overall health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, one in five American adults and children are affected by a mental illness;
and

WHEREAS, mental health problems do not discriminate, they know no race, creed, age
limit or economic status; and

WHEREAS, mental disorders, collectively, make mental illness the most prevalent
health problem in America today – more common than cancer, lung and heart disease
combined: and

WHEREAS, people with mental illness can recover and lead full, productive lives; and

WHEREAS, an estimated two-thirds of adults and young people with mental health
problems are not getting the help they need; and

WHEREAS, untreated or under treated mental illness costs public and private
employers billions of dollars annually through absenteeism, turnover, low productivity
and increased medical costs; and

WHEREAS, Washtenaw County has made a commitment to community-based systems
of mental health care in which all residents can receive high-quality and consumer-
responsive services; and

WHEREAS, the National Mental Health Association, the National Council for
Community Behavioral Healthcare and their national partners observe Mental Health
Month every May to raise awareness and understanding of mental health and illness;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Board of
Commissioners hereby proclaims May 2002 as Mental Health Month in Washtenaw
County and encourages all citizens, government agencies, public and private
institutions, businesses and schools to recommit our community to increasing
awareness and understanding of mental illness and the need for appropriate and
accessible services for all people with mental illnesses.