



# Napa County

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## Legislation Text

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Jennifer Yasumoto, Director of Health & Human Services Agency

**REPORT BY:** Gaby Angeles, Staff Services Analyst II

**SUBJECT:** Presentation of a Proclamation declaring May 2023 as "Mental Health Awareness Month"

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

Presentation of a proclamation to the Chair of the Napa County Mental Health Board, Robert Palmer, Vice Chair of the Napa County Mental Health Board, Kristine Haataja, and Deputy Director of HHSA - Behavioral Health, Cassandra Eslami, declaring May 2023 as "Mental Health Awareness Month" in Napa County.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This proclamation is being presented as part of the County's effort to increase public awareness of severe mental illness and to promote greater understanding of those who suffer from mental health problems. Mental Health Awareness Month is recognized throughout the month of May as part of a national movement to raise awareness about mental health.

### **FISCAL & STRATEGIC PLAN IMPACT**

Is there a Fiscal Impact? No

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

### **BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION**

The mental health and wellbeing of Napa County residents is a critical issue that affects not only quality of life,

but also the health of our communities, families, and economic stability. Mental disorders and mental health challenges affect residents of all backgrounds and all stages of life. One in five adults will experience a mental illness, individually or through a family member, at some point in their life. It is important to recognize that mental illness affects the entire community regardless of race, gender, age, ethnicity, or socioeconomic status. Raising awareness is vital to fighting the stigma associated with mental health challenges.

By proclaiming May 2023 as "Mental Health Awareness Month," the Napa County Board of Supervisors will increase awareness of the importance of mental health in the lives of all community members and eliminate the barriers and stigma associated with mental illness. This awareness demonstrates commitment and support to Napa County residents who have mental illness, as well as their families. This proclamation also promotes hope and encourages those with mental illness to lead fulfilling and productive lives.