Resolution

ORDER NO 2017-0643

DATE: May 16, 2017

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF DALLAS §



BE IT REMEMBERED, at a regular meeting of the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, Texas, held on the 16th day of May, 2017, on a motion made by Dr. Theresa Daniel, Commissioner District 1, and seconded by John Wiley Price, Commissioner District 3 the following Resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS, In 1949, the White House, under President Harry S. Truman and the medical community, declared May as Mental Health Awareness Month to increase public awareness of mental health, eliminate the stigma and to improve services; and

WHEREAS, Mental Health includes our emotional, psychological, and social well-being. It affects how we think, feel, and act. It also helps determine how we handle stress, how we relate to others, and make choices; and

WHEREAS,

Depression is the most common type of mental illness, affecting more than 26% of the U.S. adult population. It has been estimated that by the year 2020, depression will be the second leading cause of disability throughout the world, trailing only ischemic heart disease; and

WHEREAS,

Nearly 60% of adults with a mental illness did not receive mental health services in the previous year, and nearly 50% of youth aged 8-15 did not receive mental health services in the previous year; and

WHEREAS, Nearly 1 in 25 (10 million) adults in America live with a serious mental illness, one-half of all chronic mental illness begins by the age of 14; three quarters by the age of 24; and

WHEREAS, The National Alliance for the Mentally III reports that with proper care and treatment, between 70 and 90 percent of persons with mental illness experience a significant reduction of symptoms and an improved quality of life; and

WHEREAS, The Dallas County Behavioral Health Leadership Team (BHLT) is integral to the progress made in addressing the overarching needs of Dallas County since its inception in 2011. It is an authority granted by the Dallas County Commissioners Court and the Parkland Board of Managers for Dallas County behavioral health services that ensures local control of the funding and delivery of behavioral health services and support services, such as housing; and

WHEREAS,
The Dallas County Behavioral Health Leadership Team, chaired by Commissioner Price and Commissioner Daniel, interfaces with the Commissioners Court, the Dallas County Hospital District (Parkland), the North Texas Behavioral Health Authority, the Criminal Justice Advisory Board, specialty courts and diversion programs, state and federal agencies, legislators, foundations, such as the Meadow's Mental Health Policy Institute, and consumers and family advocates; and

WHEREAS, The Dallas County Behavioral Health Leadership Team ensures that Dallas County is an active partner with other counties in developing a strong regional behavioral healthcare system through its leadership with the North Texas Behavioral Health Authority; and

The members of the Dallas County Behavioral Health Leadership Team are not just leaders in their field, but are passionate trailblazers representing a broad sector of advocates, providers, elected officials, the judicial system, city and county law enforcement, criminal justice, payers and funders committed to enhancing the care and improving the lives of those living with mental illness and their families.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dallas County Commissioners Court and the citizens of Dallas County appreciate the tireless hours expended by the members of the Dallas County Behavioral Health Leadership Team. During National Mental Health Awareness Month, we applaud the Dallas County Behavioral Health Leadership Team and its members for their ongoing efforts to address the unique needs of those with mental illness, raise public awareness and to build a community of hope within Dallas County.

DONE IN OPEN COURT this the 16th day of May, 2017.

Clay Lewis Jenkins, County Judge

WHEREAS.

Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, District 1

Mike Cantrell, District 2

Collecto

John Wiley Price, District 3 Dr. Elba Garcia, District 4