

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

PROCLAMATION NO. 03-137

Proclaiming October 5 through 11, 2003 Mental Illness Awareness Week in Multnomah County, Oregon

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:


- a) Mental Health is essential to health, every individual, family and community must understand that mental health is an essential part of overall health and we must increase suicide prevention by reducing the stigma of seeking care;
- b) It is essential to eliminate disparities in mental health by promoting well-being for all, regardless of race, ethnicity, language, place of residence or age and ensure equity of access, delivery of services and improvement of outcomes, through public and private partnership to ensure culturally competent care to all;
- c) Consumers and families must have the necessary information and the opportunity to exercise choice over their care decisions, including individualized plans of care, expanded supported employment, enhanced rights protections, better criminal and juvenile justice diversion and re-entry programs, improve access to housing, and end chronic homelessness;
- d) Every individual must have the opportunity for early and appropriate mental health screening, assessment and referral to treatment;
- e) Adults and children with mental illness must have ready access to evidence-based best treatments, services and supports leading to recovery
- f) The mental health system must inform consumers, providers and public policy with quality, accessible and accountable information supporting improved care and information dissemination

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Proclaims:

1. October 5 through 11, 2003, as Mental Illness Awareness Week in Multnomah County, Oregon, to increase public awareness of severe mental illness and in so doing to promote greater access to effective treatments for those who suffer from the potentially disabling symptoms of these disorders.

ADOPTED this 2nd day of October, 2003.


**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**



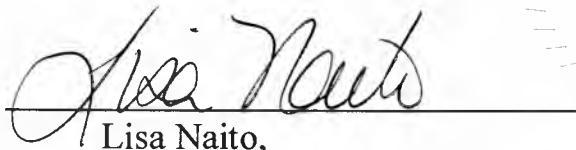
Diane M. Linn, County Chair



Maria Rojo de Steffey,
Commissioner Dist 1



Serena Cruz,
Commissioner Dist 2



Lisa Naito,
Commissioner Dist 3



Lonnie Roberts,
Commissioner District 4