

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

**PROCLAMATION NO. 06-026**

Proclaiming March 12 through 18, 2006 as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Health Week in Multnomah County, Oregon

**The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:**

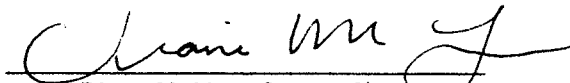
- a. During the week of March 12 through 18, 2006, the National Coalition for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Health is committed to raising public awareness of the unique health concerns of LGBT communities. This is accomplished by educating LGBT communities about the health issues pertaining to their unique circumstances, and educating medical and health care professionals in the area of cultural competency with regard to LGBT health.
- b. Under statute it is the responsibility of Multnomah County to provide for the health and well being of its populations. Multnomah County has a unique and vibrant LGBT population that deserves the same opportunities, rights and freedoms accorded to all when accessing health care.
- c. LGBT people are often reluctant to seek care or to 'come out' to health providers leading to under-screening and non-intervention. This reluctance results in a myriad of health concerns from smoking-related diseases to HIV and other sexually transmitted infections, breast cancer, domestic violence and mental health issues.
- d. Gay, Lesbian and Questioning youth are 2-3 times more likely than their straight peers to attempt suicide. Approximately 30% of gay and lesbian youth have attempted suicide. For transgender youth, the figures are even higher – approximately 50%.
- e. Elders in same-sex relationships are at a higher risk of economic devastation than their heterosexual elder counterparts due to the fact that legal protections are not afforded to same-sex couples.
- f. HIV/AIDS continues to devastate LGBT populations and more education and health care is necessary.

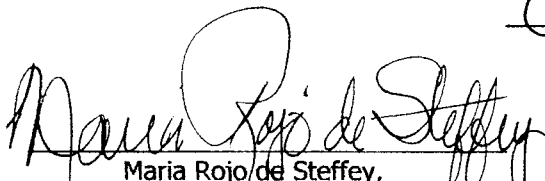
**The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Proclaims:**


March 12 through 18, 2006 is Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Health Awareness Week in Multnomah County, Oregon.

ADOPTED this 9th day of March, 2006.

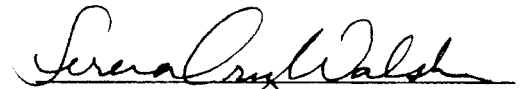
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON


  
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