

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

PROCLAMATION NO. 02-030

Proclaiming March 1, 2002 as Self Injury Awareness Day in Multnomah County, Oregon

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

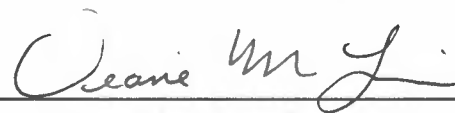
- a) Self-injury, also called self-harm, self-inflicted behavior, self-mutilation, or self-inflicted violence is a coping mechanism used by an estimated one percent of the U.S. population;
- b) Self-injury is often misunderstood, leading to people who self-injure being treated insensitively or misdiagnosed by many police officers, doctors, therapists, and emergency personnel;
- c) Studies have shown that people who self-injure, despite public perceptions, are generally not psychotic and present little danger to others;
- d) When properly diagnosed, effective treatments for self-injury do exist, although many professionals are not aware of them;
- e) Raising professional and public awareness of the facts surrounding self-injury will help dispel the fears, myths, taboos, and shame associated with the subject, making it easier for people who self-injure to receive the proper treatment they deserve; now therefore

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

- 1. March 1, 2002 as Self Injury Awareness Day in Multnomah County, Oregon, and calls upon all citizens to join to educate one another about self-injury and allow people who self-injure to receive treatment based on dignity and respect.

ADOPTED this 21st day of February, 2002.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON



Diane M. Linn, Chair

