

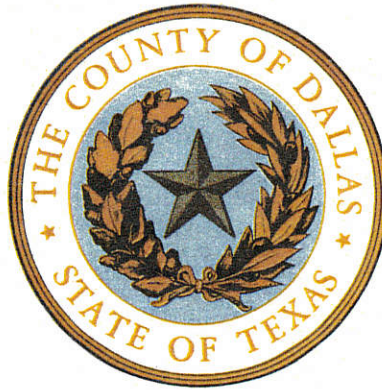
Resolution

ORDER NO 2016-0606

DATE: May 17, 2016

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF DALLAS §



BE IT REMEMBERED, at a regular meeting of the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, Texas, held on the 17th day of May, 2016, 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, SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) holds National Prevention Week every year, an annual health observance that occurs during Mental Health Awareness Month to further bring action and attention to the issues of mental health and substance use disorders. This week marks National Prevention Week - May 15-21, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Mental Health America reports that delayed treatment is denied treatment and has real consequences for society. Major Depressive Disorder alone costs the U.S. about \$210 billion per year, of which \$80 billion per year is attributed to "presenteeism," which is defined as being at work but not fully functioning. Without treatment, the consequences of mental illness for an individual and society are staggering: unnecessary disability, unemployment, and substance use; and

WHEREAS, Today, we know that approximately 1 in 5 adults, 43.8 million or 18.5%, will experience mental illness in any given year. Approximately 1 in 5 youth aged 13-18 or 21.4% experiences a severe mental disorder at some point during their life. Nationally, 57 percent of adults with mental illness receive no treatment, and in some states that number increases to 70 percent; and

WHEREAS, The Dallas County Juvenile Department analysis showed of the 1,072 juveniles court ordered to probation in 2015, 71% were identified with mental health issues, up from 63% two years ago. For adults, according to the Behavioral and Psychiatric Services at the Dallas County Jail, the percentage of mentally ill referrals for all book-ins averages 25%; 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 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


WHEREAS, 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; and


WHEREAS, Mental Health America's 2016 theme is "Life With a Mental Illness," and calls on individuals to share what life with a mental illness feels like for them. SAMHSA's 2016 theme for National Prevention Week is "Strong As One. Strong Together." Improving public awareness of mental illness is needed so individuals may receive adequate and appropriate treatment that will result in their becoming fully functioning members of society.

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 17th day of May, 2016.


Clay Lewis Jenkins, County Judge


Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, District 1


Mike Cantrell, District 2


John Wiley Price, District 3


Dr. Elba Garcia, District 4