

*Before the Board of Supervisors in and for the  
County of Monterey, State of California*

**Resolution No.:**

Adopt Resolution proclaiming February 7-13, 2016, “**Black Minds Matter:** )  
**African American Mental Health Awareness Week**” in Monterey County... )

**WHEREAS**, the Monterey County Board of Supervisors declares February 7-13, 2016 as “**BLACK MINDS MATTER: AFRICAN AMERICAN MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK**” in Monterey County as part of California’s “Each Mind Matters Movement”; and

**WHEREAS**, this week is dedicated to the memory of Dr. Francis Cecil Sumner, the first African American to receive a Doctorate in Psychology and Dr. Inez Beverly Prosser, the first African American woman to receive a Doctorate in Psychology, both being pioneers in the Black Psychology Movement of the early 1930’s; and

**WHEREAS**, in their spirit, there is a need to support the recovery process of African American individuals and their family members struggling with the challenges of mental health issues through the delivery of community based, culturally responsive services, including but not limited to Community Defined Evidence Practices (CDEP); and

**WHEREAS**, mental health issues are among the leading causes of disability among all groups of people in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the 1999 Surgeon General’s Report and the 2004 Mental Health Services Act identified African Americans as one of four major ethnic groups experiencing mental health services disparities in this nation; and

**WHEREAS**, Monterey County Behavioral Health, in 2008, supported the founding of The Village Project, Inc., an African American-focused Family Resource Center to bring culturally appropriate and responsive clinical services to Monterey County for African Americans and other underserved populations producing over seven and one-half years of positive outcomes for those communities; and

**WHEREAS**, among those critical outcomes were the reduction of stigma and cultural distrust among African Americans and others, thus breaking down two formidable barriers to those populations requesting, accessing and receiving mental health services; and

**WHEREAS**, the goal of this week is to heighten awareness of mental health in the African American community and encourage people to put misconceptions and stereotypes to rest.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Monterey County Board of Supervisors, in its acknowledgment of BLACK HISTORY MONTH and its use of the significance of this month to proclaim FEBRUARY 7-13, 2016 as “**BLACK MINDS MATTER: AFRICAN AMERICAN MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK**”, demonstrates its ongoing

commitment to encouraging collective efforts by governmental agencies, community based organizations, community volunteers, spiritual leaders and families to replace misinformation about mental health care and erase prejudice, fear and blame, thereby reducing stigma and disparities in the African American and other historically underserved communities in Monterey County.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this **XX** day of February, 2016, by the following vote, to-wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

I, Gail T. Borkowski, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, State of California, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an original order of said Board of Supervisors duly made and entered in the minutes thereof of Minute Book\_\_\_\_\_ for the meeting on \_\_\_\_\_.

Dated:

Gail T. Borkowski, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
County of Monterey, State of California

By \_\_\_\_\_, Deputy