

PROCLAMATION

MAY – MENTAL HEALTH MONTH IN YAVAPAI COUNTY



WHEREAS, there is a proven connection between good mental health and overall personal health; and

WHEREAS, mental illnesses affect almost every family in America; and

WHEREAS, people with mental illnesses recover if given the necessary services and supports in their communities; and

WHEREAS, people with mental illnesses make important contributions to our families and our communities; and

WHEREAS, millions of adults and children are disabled by mental illnesses every year; and

WHEREAS, only one out of two people with a serious form of mental illness seeks treatment for their mental illness; and

WHEREAS, stigma and fear of discrimination keep many who would benefit from mental health services from seeking help; and

WHEREAS, research shows that the most effective way to reduce stigma is through personal contact with someone with a mental illness; and

WHEREAS, good mental health is critical to the well-being of our families, communities, schools, and businesses; and

WHEREAS, greater public awareness about mental illnesses can change negative attitudes and behaviors toward people with mental illnesses;

WHEREAS, Yavapai County calls upon citizens, public and private institutions, businesses, and schools to recommit to increasing awareness and understanding of mental illnesses, reducing stigma and discrimination, and promoting appropriate and accessible services for all people with mental illnesses.

NOW, THEREFORE, Yavapai County does hereby proclaim the month of May 2009 as "**MENTAL HEALTH MONTH IN YAVAPAI COUNTY**".

DATED this 6th day of April, 2009.

Thomas Thurman, Chairman
Yavapai County Board of Supervisors