



**In the Matter of  
PROCLAIMING MAY 2017 AS  
“MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH”  
IN CITY OF YACHATS, OREGON**

WHEREAS, the Yachats City Council strives to maintain a Vision Statement that our village is a place where natural resources are valued and protected; where diversity is celebrated; and where a vibrant economy and sense of community pride create and recreate a living spirit; and

WHEREAS the Yachats City Council cares not just for its citizens’ basic needs, but also supports them in their efforts to excel mentally, physically, artistically and spiritually, as a community with an enduring sense of itself; therefore

WHEREAS, mental health is essential to everyone’s overall health and well-being; and all Americans experience times of difficulty and stress in their lives; and mental illnesses are real and prevalent in the United States; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that one in every five adults experiences mental health problems in any given year, and such problems can contribute to the onset of a serious mental illness, such as major depression, bipolar disorder or schizophrenia; about one in every ten adults lives continuously with a serious mental illness; approximately two million incarcerated adults have also been diagnosed with serious mental illness; and in Lincoln County, suicide is the seventh leading cause of death for adults, with nearly 21 per cent of eighth-graders and 18 per cent of eleventh graders reporting that they have considered suicide; and

WHEREAS, with early detection and effective, supportive treatment, individuals with mental illness can achieve recovery, and lead full, productive lives; public education and community support activities can encourage emotional and mental health and help improve the lives of individuals and families affected by mental illness; and prevention and early intervention, including Mental Health First Aid, are effective ways to reduce the incidence of mental illnesses and suicide; and the U.S. Surgeon General’s National Prevention Strategy has recognized mental and emotional well-being as essential for all Americans, with a plan for action that all Americans can use to better handle challenges and protect their mental health;

NOW, THEREFORE, the City of Yachats Council hereby proclaims May 2017 as “Mental Health Awareness Month” in Yachats, Oregon, and encourages the community to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies and activities that promote a better awareness and understanding of mental health, suicide prevention and the Stepping Up Initiative; to learn the steps that everyone can take to protect their own and their loved ones’ mental health; and to get involved in the community as a resource of Mental Health First Aid.

DATED this 10<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2017.

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GERALD F. STANLEY, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Joan Davies, City Manager