

IN THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE STATE OF OREGON

FOR THE COUNTY OF YAMHILL

SITTING FOR THE TRANSACTION OF COUNTY BUSINESS

In the Matter of a Resolution) RESOLUTION 17-06-22-1
In support of Stepping Up Initiative)

WHEREAS, counties routinely provide treatment services to the estimated 2 million people with serious mental illnesses booked into jail each year; prevalence rates of serious mental illnesses in jails are three to six times higher than for the general population and,

WHEREAS, almost three-quarters of adults with serious mental illnesses in jails have co-occurring substance use disorders; and adults with mental illnesses tend to stay longer in jail and upon release are at a higher risk of recidivism than people without these disorders; and,

WHEREAS, county jails spend two to three times more on adults with mental illnesses that require interventions compared to those without these treatment needs; and,

WHEREAS, without the appropriate treatment and services, people with mental illnesses continue to cycle through the criminal justice system, often resulting in tragic outcomes for these individuals and their families; and,

WHEREAS, Yamhill County and all counties take pride in their responsibility to protect and enhance the health, welfare and safety of its residents in efficient and cost-effective ways; and;

WHEREAS, Yamhill County has been working on system improvements to keep individuals with mental health challenges out of jail and the justice system since 2009 by implementing a Special Needs Task Force and an Evidence-Based Decision Making Initiative and developed its Community Outreach Specialist team partnering with all local law enforcement and the Health and Human Services Department; adopted the sequential intercept model for diversion of individuals from justice system, and established evidence-based risk screening tools to understand our data and achieve the goals of reduction of initial involvement, overall length of stay, and rates of return incarceration; and;

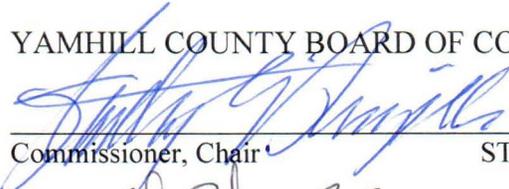
WHEREAS, through Stepping Up, the National Association of Counties, the Council of State Governments Justice Center and the American Psychiatric Association Foundation are encouraging public, private and nonprofit partners to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in jails;

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, THAT the Yamhill County Board of Commissioners does hereby sign the Call to Action to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in our county, commit to sharing lessons learned with other counties in the state and across the country to support a national initiative and encourage county officials, employees and citizens to participate in Stepping Up Initiative.

Done this 22nd day of June, 2017

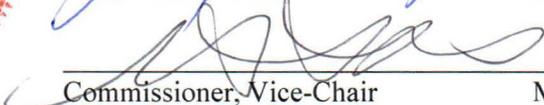


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