

MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

PROCLAMATION NO. 13

Proclaiming May 2025 as Mental Health Awareness Month in Multnomah County, Oregon.

Multnomah County Finds:


- A. With this year's theme, "In Every Story, There's Strength," the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) celebrates the resilience and diverse experiences that shape mental health journeys, as well as the power of storytelling to fuel connection, understanding, and hope.
- B. People with mental illness are more likely to be the victims of crimes than to commit crimes.
- C. Every Multnomah County resident deserves access to the basic preconditions of physical and mental health, including housing, nutrition, safety, and healthcare.
- D. Communities in Multnomah County face immense barriers to mental healthcare, especially communities most affected by structural racism, economic and social exclusion.
- E. Speaking openly about mental health reduces the stigma attached to mental health challenges and mental illness.
- F. The Multnomah County Health Department and Behavioral Health Division provide services to help our communities access vital healthcare and resources to thrive. Destigmatizing mental health care and mental health parity are crucial steps to ensuring every resident of Multnomah County gets the health care they need. Our community's peers, counselors, providers, and support staff provide effective, trauma-informed, and culturally responsive mental health services, but what we currently offer is not enough. Mental health services and supports must be available to everyone, and access should not require that a person reach the point of crisis.
- G. Investments in mental health contribute to healthier communities, improved relationships, increased stability, and opportunities to live fuller and happier lives.

Multnomah County Proclaims:

The month of May 2025 to be Mental Health Awareness Month in Multnomah County, Oregon, and with this proclamation reaffirms the County's commitment to support ongoing efforts to achieve behavioral health wellness across our community.

SIGNED this 7th day of May, 2025.

REVIEWED:
JENNY M. MADKOUR, COUNTY ATTORNEY
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

By: 

Jenny M. Madkour, County Attorney

SUBMITTED BY: Commissioner Meghan Moyer, District 1; Deandre Kenyanjui, Office of Consumer Engagement; & Anthony Jordan, Behavioral Health Division.