

I Mina' Trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
Resolutions Log Sheet

Resolution No.	Sponsor	Title	Date Intro	Date of Presentation	Date Referred	Committee / Ofc Referred	Date Adopted
124-32 (LS)	Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr., V.Anthony Ada, Aline A. Yamashita, Ph.D.	Relative to recognizing the month of May as "Mental Health Month" with the theme entitled "Pathways to Wellness" and extending a warm and sincere Un Dangkolo Na Si Yu'us Ma'ase to the staff and management of the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse (DMHSA) for their continued care to the well-being of our island community.	4/30/13 11:14 a.m.	5/6/13 4pm			04/30/13

I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2013 (FIRST) Regular Session

Resolution No. 124-32 (LS)

Introduced by:

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Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

Relative to recognizing the staff and management of the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse (DMHSA) on the observance of the month of May as “Mental Health Month,” with the theme: “Pathways to Wellness”; and to further extending a warm and sincere *Un Dångkolo Na Si Yu’os Ma’åse’* to them for their continued care for the well-being of our island community.

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN***
2 ***GUÅHAN*:**

3 **WHEREAS**, the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse is the
4 state agency which provides mental health care services for children, youth and

1 adolescents, young adults and adults, whose vision is: "That more caring
2 communities will be visible throughout the island in promoting positive mental
3 health and healthy lifestyle through prevention and education strategies; and that
4 the practice of ensuring delivery of mandated mental health services reflects
5 collaborative engagement and a Standard of Excellence"; and

6 **WHEREAS**, on our island of *Guåhan*, we all experience difficulty and
7 stress with our everyday dealings with life, and oftentimes some may require
8 mental health intervention. Positive mental health is essential to the well-being of
9 every child, woman, and man in the community, our nation and our world. The
10 participation of the community as a whole serves an integral role in caring for the
11 well-being of individuals seeking help; and

12 **WHEREAS**, mental illness does not discriminate. Anyone at any given
13 time, regardless of age, gender, race, social status or income level, can be affected.
14 The DMHSA continues to work hard in ensuring that proper and necessary care is
15 provided, as these services are crucial to the needs of affected individuals and their
16 families; and

17 **WHEREAS**, a strong body of research must continue to support specific
18 tools that Guamanians can utilize to better handle challenges, in order to protect
19 their health and overall well-being; and

20 **WHEREAS**, it is important that the community of *Guåhan* promotes
21 recovery and awareness, in order to combat stigma and discrimination which
22 hinders individuals from seeking mental health services; and

23 **WHEREAS**, prevention is an effective way to help reduce the burden
24 Guamanians experience with mental health conditions. The staff and management
25 of the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse work hard and ensure
26 that they make their valuable time to be available to assist the consumers; and with

1 effective treatment, individuals experiencing mental health conditions can recover
2 and live productive lives; and

3 **WHEREAS**, mental illness is fast becoming the leading cause of disability
4 in the United States, often resulting in many days of work lost annually, due to a
5 decline in productivity. Access to medication and treatment in our community
6 helps prevent people from ending up in emergency rooms, correction facilities,
7 becoming homeless, and to the extent of preventing incidents of suicide; and

8 **WHEREAS**, advocacy for sound social policies is significant, and to have
9 better accessibility to medication and treatment for overall mental health
10 conditions is crucial, as having positive mental health is fundamental to the future
11 of our people; and

12 **WHEREAS**, mental health services is a community effort and
13 responsibility, where each of the businesses, schools, government agencies, health
14 care providers, organizations, and citizens share in the burden of mental health
15 problems, and can often promote wellness to the island community; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the staff and management of the Department of Mental Health
17 and Substance Abuse, as well as the various programs that provide care and
18 assistance to the individuals and families in need, devote their valuable time and
19 efforts in assisting with the needs of the affected; and

20 **WHEREAS**, in March 2013, the National Association of Social Workers,
21 Guam Chapter, named Ms. Reina Sanchez, M.A., as the “Social Worker of the
22 Year”; and bestowed the Healing Hearts Program with the “Exemplary Service
23 Provider” award for their excellence in the work field and for their continued
24 efforts in advocating for the well-being of our island community; now therefore, be
25 it

26 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does
27 hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, recognize and commend the staff and

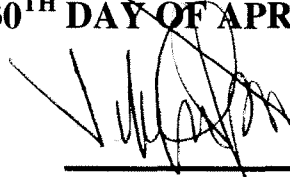
1 management of the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse (DMHSA)
2 on the observance of the month of May as “Mental Health Month,” with the theme:
3 “Pathways to Wellness”; and does further extend a warm *Un Dângkolo Na Si*
4 *Yu’os Ma’åse’* to them for their continued care for the well-being of our island
5 community; and be it further

6 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest
7 to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Mr.
8 Rey Vega, Director, Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse; and to the
9 Honorable Edward J.B. Calvo, *I Maga’lahen Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA'TRENTAI DOS NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 30TH DAY OF APRIL, 2013.



JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D.
Speaker



TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES
Legislative Secretary