



*Proclamation  
of the  
City of Foster City, California*

**“National Mental Health Awareness Month”  
May 2014**

WHEREAS, mental illness is a leading cause of disability, both nationally and worldwide, second only to cardiovascular disease in total impact; and

WHEREAS, serious and debilitating mental illness and emotional disturbances affect up to five percent of the adult population and up to ten percent of our youth each year, and one out of every four families has a mentally ill/emotionally disturbed family member; and

WHEREAS, national and state studies consistently find that less than fifty percent of our communities' mental health treatment and support needs are met; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Surgeon General's Report on Mental Health and the President's "New Freedom commission on Mental Health" found that there are effective treatments for mental illness and that individuals can recover and become contributing members of our communities; and

WHEREAS, the treatment success rates for mental health conditions compare favorably to the rate for chronic physical conditions such as heart disease, diabetes or cancer; and

WHEREAS, stigma and lack of public understanding of mental illness is the single greatest barrier to an individual seeking treatment; and

WHEREAS, national mental health advocacy organizations, including the National Mental Health Association and the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, have designated the month of May as a time to increase public awareness and support for mental health; and

WHEREAS, each business, school, government agency, healthcare provider, organization and resident shares the responsibility of mental health challenges and has a responsibility to promote mental wellness and support prevention efforts; and

WHEREAS, Foster City takes pride in upholding the dignity and civil rights of all of its residents, including those with disabilities such as psychiatric disabilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHARLIE BRONITSKY, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF FOSTER CITY, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY COUNCIL, do hereby proclaim May 2014 as **“National Mental Health Awareness Month”** and encourage all citizens of Foster City to support the efforts to raise awareness concerning mental health.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and have caused the official seal of the City of Foster City to be affixed this 21<sup>st</sup> day of April in the year two thousand and fourteen, A.D.

MAYOR CHARLIE BRONITSKY