

## **RESOLUTION July is BIPOC Mental Health Month**

**WHEREAS**, July 2025 is recognized as BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) Mental Health Month in Santa Barbara County and across the nation, raising public awareness and promoting a sense of belonging and inclusion in support of the well-being and mental health of BIPOC individuals; and

**WHEREAS**, nearly one in five American adults experiences a diagnosable mental health condition in any given year. While rates among People of Color (POC) are similar, these conditions are more likely to last longer and result in more significant impacts when untreated - particularly in communities of color where barriers to access, stigma, and systemic inequities often delay or prevent care; and

**WHEREAS**, it is essential to commit to community-based healing and to acknowledge the historical and present-day burdens carried by BIPOC communities, including those who have been marginalized, discriminated against, or persecuted; and

**WHEREAS**, BIPOC communities have long been at the forefront of social change, drawing upon deep cultural traditions, resilience, and collective strength to uplift others, foster belonging, and advocate for those whose voices have been silenced; and

**WHEREAS**, promoting culturally responsive practices that support health equity and prioritizing access for all are essential steps towards building a healthier and more inclusive future for all residents of Santa Barbara County.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED** that the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County does hereby acknowledge July as BIPOC Mental Health Month.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California, this 15 day of July 2025 by a unanimous vote of all members present.