



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION
FOR MICHAEL ALLEN
UPON HIS RETIREMENT

WHEREAS, Michael Allen began his employment with the Department of Behavioral Wellness (then the Department of Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Services) as an extra-help mental health case worker in May of 1998 and began as a full-time employee in 1999; and

WHEREAS, in April of 2002, Michael began working with youth in the Multi-Agency Integrated System of Care (MISC) program before transitioning to the mobile crisis team in 2014; and

WHEREAS, Michael is a skilled case worker who has a knack for quickly building rapport with individuals and de-escalating crisis situations. His calm demeanor and "southern charm" suited him well as he rapidly became a well-respected mobile crisis staff member, followed by becoming a lead staff member who assisted with training new employees. His skills in working with both clients and staff earned his promotion in 2015, to the position of Team Supervisor of the Behavioral Wellness mobile crisis team in Lompoc; and

WHEREAS, three years later in 2018, Michael was asked to assume responsibility for the Santa Maria mobile crisis team, as well as the team in Lompoc. True to his fashion, he readily accepted this challenge and, in no time, earned the trust and respect of his new team. In January of 2020, Michael was promoted in classification from case worker to a mental health rehabilitation specialist, continuing in his leadership of both Lompoc and Santa Maria mobile crisis teams; and

WHEREAS, in addition to Michael's departmental service and leadership, he has also been instrumental in assisting (both himself and in the recruitment of other departmental staff) the greater community through multiple tragedies including the Thomas Fire, 1/9 Debris Flow, Conception Dive Boat Fire, and communities impacted by the recent January Storms. He served in Local Assistance Centers, Evacuation Shelters and the County Call Center. He has also offered multiple responses to support compassion centers at schools following the unplanned deaths of students or teachers; and

WHEREAS, Michael is never far from his work cell phone seven days a week. He is rapid in responding to inquiries from his staff, supervisors or individuals from other organizations that need quick assistance. He is respected within the department and within broader community organizations who have interactions with the crisis program including local hospitals, law enforcement, homeless shelters, community based organizational providers, and more; and

WHEREAS, Michael's dedication to the department and to the broader community, his quick wit and sense of humor, kindness and willingness to help out wherever and for whomever needs assistance, has been greatly appreciated throughout his many years of service within the Department of Behavioral Wellness.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors recognizes Michael Allen for his 25 years of service to Santa Barbara County.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California, this 14th day of March 2023, by unanimous vote of all members present.



ATTEST:

Mona Reyesato
Clerk of the Board

Josh Hillman
Supervisor - 1st District

Zack Carr
Supervisor - 2nd District

Joan Banta
Supervisor - 3rd District

Bob Weber
Supervisor - 4th District

Stacy Swain
Supervisor - 5th District