

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Mental health is inseparable from overall health and is significantly impacted by environment, including home life, parenting, food and housing security, community and school environment, and economic stability; and

WHEREAS, Nearly half of mental health challenges begin during infancy and childhood, associated with Adverse Childhood Experiences, and early exposure to trauma is strongly associated with increased risk of substance use disorders and co-occurring mental health conditions across the lifespan; and

WHEREAS, Exposure to traumatic events can have lasting psychological, physical, and social impacts on individuals, families, and communities, requiring trauma responsive supports that help individuals and communities heal; and

WHEREAS, Recent federal activities occurring in Ramsey County has resulted in widespread collective community-based trauma and community disruption, violence, and discrimination are directly related to mental health; and

WHEREAS, Early identification of mental health conditions is associated with significantly improved long-term health, educational and economic outcomes and require tailored services to reflect cultural, linguistic, and lived experiences of communities; and

WHEREAS, Mental health promotion and responsive community mental health resources for residents and Ramsey County staff require sustainable mental health promotions, early intervention, and recovery-oriented systems of care; and

WHEREAS, There are enduring challenges faced by justice-involved clients with mental illness or neurodivergence and the county is committed to initiatives that promote the overall health of residents; and

WHEREAS, Individuals facing mental health challenges need equitable opportunities to lead fulfilling lives, and fostering a culture of compassion and inclusivity supports community connection; Now, Therefore, Be It

PROCLAIMED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners declares May 2026, as Mental Health Awareness Month in Ramsey County; and Be It Further

PROCLAIMED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners reaffirms its commitment to improving the conditions influencing community mental well-being, including supporting culturally appropriate approaches to promote, protect and improve mental health.



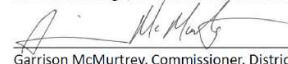
Rafael Ortega, Board Chair, District 5



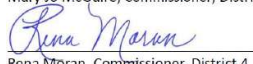
Tara Jebens-Singh, Commissioner, District 1



Mary Jo McGuire, Commissioner, District 2



Garrison McMurtrey, Commissioner, District 3



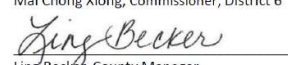
Rena Moran, Commissioner, District 4



Mai Chong Xiong, Commissioner, District 6



Kelly Miller, Commissioner, District 7



Ling Becker, County Manager