

I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2009 (FIRST) Regular Session

Resolution No. 123 (LS)

Introduced by:

F. B. Aguon, Jr
F. F. Blas, Jr.
R. J. Respicio
T. C. Ada
E. J.B. Calvo
B. J.F. Cruz
J. V. Espaldon
Judith P. Guthertz, DPA
T. R. Muña Barnes
v. c. pangelinan
Adolpho B. Palacios, Sr.
M. J. Rector
Telo Taitague
Ray Tenorio
Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

Relative to recognizing and commending the professional practitioners, social workers, management and employees of the Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse for their dedication and hard work during the celebration of its "Twenty-eighth (28th) Anniversary" and the observance of "National Mental Health Month", and the grand opening of the Healing Hearts Crisis Center.

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

3 **WHEREAS**, it is acknowledged by *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* that the month
4 of May is the locally and nationally recognized month to celebrate “Mental
5 Health Awareness Month” to raise awareness of mental health and eliminate
6 discrimination against people with mental illness; and

7 **WHEREAS**, prior to the creation of the Department of Mental Health
8 and Substance Abuse through the enactment of Public Law 17-21 in 1983,
9 mental health services were provided by Guam Memorial Hospital and the
10 year 2009 marks the Twenty-eighth (28th) Anniversary of the Guam
11 Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, with this year’s theme
12 “Live Your Life Well”; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse
14 provides leadership and guidance to close the gap between what is needed
15 and what is currently available to reduce the burden of mental disorders
16 island-wide, to promote mental health and enhance Guam’s capacity to
17 combat stigma of mental disorders through “Operation Re-dedication”; and

18 **WHEREAS**, one (1) in five (5) children suffers from mental health
19 problems, and if left untreated, can lead to school failure, alcohol or substance
20 abuse, family discord, violence and even suicide; and

21 **WHEREAS**, one (1) in five (5) Americans experiences a mental health
22 disorder in any given year, but only one-third (1/3) seek care due to the

1 stigma and misperceptions surrounding mental disorders and their treatment;
2 and

3 **WHEREAS**, more and more Americans are suffering due to the
4 increasing economic troubles piled on by stress or work and family demands;
5 and

6 **WHEREAS**, the Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse
7 encourages the community to get involved in mental health month activities
8 by wearing green ribbons to support this month's events; and

9 **WHEREAS**, various activities are being coordinated throughout the
10 month of May 2009 to commemorate this event, including, a proclamation
11 signing at the Governor's Conference room in *Adelup*, a Consumer Voices
12 Workshop, an open house, the groundbreaking for St. Dymphna Memorial
13 Park followed by a Mass to be held at the DMHSA *Tamuning* facility, a tree
14 planting ceremony for the DMHSA Fruit Tree Garden, and the grand opening
15 of The Healing Hearts Crisis Center at 215 Duenas Drive in *Tamuning*; now,
16 therefore, be it

17 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Trenta Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on
18 behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the people of Guam, honor the individuals
19 in the mental health profession, express support to the dedicated, passionate
20 and hardworking employees of the Department of Mental Health and
21 Substance Abuse, and does pay tribute to them during "Mental Health

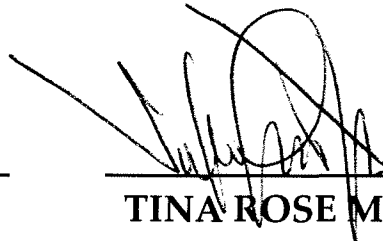
1 Awareness Month” and the “Twenty-eighth (28th) Anniversary” of the
2 DMHSA; and be it further

3 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary
4 attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter
5 transmitted to Dr. David L.G. Shimizu, Director, Department of Mental
6 Health & Substance Abuse; to Annie F.B. Unpingco, Administrator, Child-
7 Adolescent Services Division, Department of Mental Health & Substance
8 Abuse; to Leticia Piper, Acting Program Manager, Healing Hearts Crisis
9 Center; and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga’lahen Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA'TRENTA NA
LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THIS 28TH DAY OF MAY 2009.**



JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D
Speaker



TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES
Legislative Secretary