

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

Resolution No. 103 (COR)

Introduced by:

2009 APR 29  
FRANK B. AGUON JR.  
THOMAS C. ADA  
ADOLPHO B. PALACIOS SR.  
BENJAMIN J.F. CRUZ

Relative to recognizing May 2 to May 8, 2009, as "National Children's Mental Health Awareness Week: and May 7, 2009, as "National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day", as to supporting the efforts of *I Famagu'on-ta* And the Child-Adolescent Services Division of the Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse by wearing the Green Ribbon signifying new life, new growth, and new beginnings.

**BE IT RESOLVED BY I MINA' TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUĀHAN:**

**WHEREAS**, addressing the complex emotional and behavioral mental health needs of children, youth, and families is fundamental to the future of our island and the need for comprehensive, coordinated mental health services for our community especially our children calls for our leaders, policy makers, child-serving agencies and the whole community to work together; and

**WHEREAS**, children and youth with mental health challenges and their families deserve access to services and support that is family driven, youth guided and culturally appropriated; and

**WHEREAS**, mental health is essential to overall health and well being and serious emotional and mental health disorders in children and youth are real and treatable; and

**WHEREAS**, early diagnosis and appropriate treatment of mental health disorders among children and adolescents provide them better opportunities to lead full and productive lives, but it is important that children and adolescents, along with their families and the community, learn about the warning signs of mental health disorders and where to obtain necessary assistance and treatment, and

**WHEREAS**, for the past five (5) years, over seven hundred (700) children and youth have been referred to the Child Adolescent Services Division for mental health service, six hundred fifty three (653) of these referrals were for *I Famagu'on-ta*, a Child Mental Health Initiative for children and youth suffering from severe mental health conditions and in need of multiple mental health and related services; and

**WHEREAS**, *I Famagu'on-ta*, Guam's System of Care, through its unique strength and solution-based, culturally competent, child-centered, and family-driven wraparound approach to serving children and adolescents, is effectively caring for the mental health needs of children, youth and families in our community, and

**WHEREAS**, in celebrating National Children's Mental Health Awareness Week – also Green Ribbon Week – it is fitting to increase public awareness among all people living on Guam of this issue and diminish the stigma associated with mental illness; and

**WHEREAS**, as we support *I Famagu'on-ta* and the remarkable efforts of the Child-Adolescent Services Division of the Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse, *I Mina' Trenta Na Liheslaturan Guahan* encourages its members, support staff and their families, and all of the people of Guam to wear a green ribbon to promote awareness of this issue and to signify new life, new growth, and new beginnings; now, therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Executive Committee of *I Mina' Trenta Na Liheslaturan Guahan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guahan* and the people of

Guam, recognize the week of May 2 to May 8, 2009 as “National Children’s Mental Health Awareness Week”, and 7, May 2009 as “National Children’s Mental Health Awareness Day” and be further

**RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Executive Committee certify, and the Secretary of the Legislature attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Mrs. Annie F.B. Unpingco, Administrator, Child-Adolescent Services Division, Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse; to Bernadita Grajek, Event Coordinator, *I Famagu’on-ta, Guam’s System of Care*; to Dr. David L.G. Shimizu, Director, Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse; and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga’lahen Guahan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2009.**

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Judith T. Won Pat, Ed. D  
Speaker

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Tina Rose Muna-Barnes  
Senator and Secretary of the Legislature