

RESOLUTION NO. 2020 – 58

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LITTLE EGG HARBOR, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, DESIGNATING THE TOWNSHIP OF LITTLE EGG HARBOR AS A “STIGMA-FREE ZONE” FOR MENTAL HEALTH DISORDERS TO RAISE AWARENESS OF RESOURCES

WHEREAS, the National Institute of Mental Health reports that one in four adults experience mental illness in a given year and one in seventeen adults live with a serious mental illness such as schizophrenia, major depression or bipolar disorder; and

WHEREAS, approximately twenty percent of youths, ages 13 to 18 and thirteen percent under the age of 13, experience severe mental disorders in a given year; and

WHEREAS, the stigma associated with the disorder of mental illness is identified as the primary reason individuals fail to seek the help they need to recover from the disorder; and

WHEREAS, the Stigma-Free Campaign aim to inspire the public interest and open dialogues about stigma, raise awareness of the disorder of mental illness and create a culture wherein residents who have the disorder of mental illness feel supported by their community and neighbors and feel free to seek treatment for the disorder without fear of stigma; and

WHEREAS, promoting awareness that there can be no “health” without mental health, will break down barriers and encourage residents of all ages to be mindful of their mental health and ask for help when needed; and

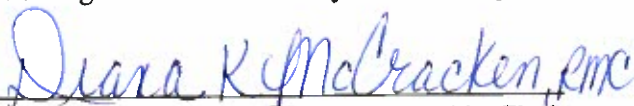
WHEREAS, local resources are available to treat the disorder of mental illness so no one needs to suffer alone or feel hopeless; and

WHEREAS, establishing Stigma-Free Zones will raise awareness of resources and encourage residents to engage in care as soon as the need is identified so recovery can begin, hope is inspired and tragedies are avoided.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township of Little Egg Harbor recognizes the community needs and supports the efforts of the County of Ocean in designating the Township of Little Egg Harbor as a Stigma-Free Zone.

CERTIFICATION

I, DIANA K. MCCRACKEN, RMC, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Little Egg Harbor do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Township of Little Egg Harbor Township Committee at a meeting held on the 13th day of February, 2020.


DIANA K. MCCRACKEN, Township Clerk
Little Egg Harbor Township