



Mendocino County

Legislation Text

File #: 16-972, **Version:** 1

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Supervisors Brown and McCowen

Meeting Date: September 13, 2016

Department Contact: Supervisor Brown

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Department Contact: Supervisor McCowen

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Item Type: Consent Agenda

Time Allocated for Item: N/A

Agenda Title:

Adoption of Proclamation Recognizing September 19, 2016, as Remembrance Day in Mendocino County to Honor and Remember Those Who Lived and Died in Confinement at State Hospitals and Development Centers

Recommended Action/Motion:

Adopt Proclamation recognizing September 19, 2016, as Remembrance Day in Mendocino County to honor and remember those who lived and died in confinement at state hospitals and development centers; and authorize Chair to sign same.

Previous Board/Board Committee Actions:

The Board of Supervisors routinely adopts proclamations recognizing special events and meritorious achievements.

Summary of Request:

Since the first California state institution opened in 1852, individuals with mental and developmental disabilities were separated from their communities and committed to these institutions for a variety of reasons, many of which would not be considered acceptable today. More than 45,000 people who died while confined in these state institutions were not claimed by family or friends and were buried by the state, often in mass or unmarked graves. Over 1,600 people who died while confined at Mendocino State Hospital are buried locally.

The California Memorial Project (CMP) is a collaboration of The California Network of Mental Health Clients, the Peer Self-Advocacy Units of Protection and Advocacy, Inc., and People First of California. The mission of the CMP is to honor and restore dignity to those individuals who lived and died in confinement at state hospitals and development centers. The three main goals of the CMP are:

- 1). Restore all cemeteries or graves where individuals from state institutions are buried;
- 2). Document the history of the client and consumer movement in California;

- 3). Preserve the history of the individuals who lived in state institutions through collections of oral histories which tell the story of living in an institution from the client's perspective.

The CMP also coordinates a Remembrance Day to honor and show respect to all people who lived or died in a California state institution. Locally, Remembrance Day will be observed September 19, beginning at 12:15 P.M., at the Russian River Cemetery.

Alternative Action/Motion:

Do not adopt the Proclamation.

Supplemental Information Available Online at: N/A

Fiscal Impact:

Source of Funding: N/A

Budgeted in Current F/Y: N/A

Current F/Y Cost: N/A

Annual Recurring Cost: N/A

Supervisory District: All

Vote Requirement: Majority

Agreement/Resolution/Ordinance Approved by County Counsel: N/A

CEO Liaison: Janelle Rau, Deputy CEO

CEO Review: Yes

Comments: