

## *~ Resolution ~*

### **of Support for Stepping Up – a national initiative to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in jails**

**WHEREAS,** counties routinely provide treatment services to the estimated 2 million people with serious mental illnesses booked into jail each year; and

**WHEREAS,** prevalence rates of serious mental illnesses in jails are three to six times higher than for the general public; and

**WHEREAS,** almost three-quarters of adults with serious mental illnesses in jails have co-occurring substance use disorders; and

**WHEREAS,** adults with mental illnesses tend to stay longer in jail and, upon release, are at a higher risk of recidivism than people without these disorders; and

**WHEREAS,** county jails spend two to three times more on adults with mental illnesses who require interventions compared to those without these treatment needs; and

**WHEREAS,** without the appropriate treatment and services, people with mental illnesses continue to cycle through the criminal justice system, often resulting in tragic outcomes for these individuals and their families; and

**WHEREAS,** Clark County takes seriously its responsibility to protect and enhance the health, welfare, and safety of its residents in efficient and cost-effective ways; and

**WHEREAS,** through Stepping Up, the National Association of Counties, the Council of State Governments Justice Center, and the American Psychiatric Association Foundation are encouraging public, private and non-profit partners to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in jails;


**NOW, THEREFORE,** this Clark County Council hereby signs on to the Call to Action to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in our county jail, commit to sharing lessons learned with other counties in Washington state and across the country to support a national initiative and encourage all county officials, employees and residents to participate in Stepping Up.

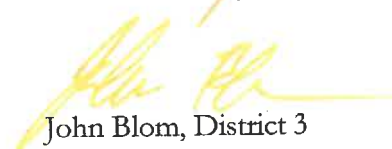
Signed this 28<sup>th</sup> day of August 2018

CLARK COUNTY COUNCIL  
CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON

  
Marc Boldt, Chair

  
Jeanne E. Stewart, District 1

  
Julie Olson, District 2

  
John Blom, District 3

  
Eileen Quiring, District 4