

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, if left untreated, behavioral health, which includes mental illness, other mental health disorders and substance use, increases the risk of diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, stroke, and can lead to increased risk of incarceration, homelessness, social isolation, victimization and trauma, suicide, overdose and unemployment; and,

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated behavioral health conditions in the U.S., with three in 10 adults reporting symptoms of anxiety or depression, compared with one in 10 adults prior to the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the Missoula County mental health coordinator compiled the recommendations from nine reports at the request of the Strategic Alliance for Improved Behavioral Health and identified specific action steps to improve the system of care including prevention, early intervention and crisis care; and

WHEREAS, the report titled “Missoula County Behavioral Health System: Charting a Path Forward” encompasses these recommendations and action steps; and

WHEREAS, the Missoula Board of County Commissioners signed Resolution 2022-007 on March 24, 2022, adopting the “Missoula County Behavioral Health System: Charting a Path Forward” as a guiding document when appropriating Missoula County resources toward addressing needs in the behavioral health care system; and

The City of Missoula, in the State of Montana, hereby adopts the “Missoula County Behavioral Health System: Charting a Path Forward” and supports Missoula County Resolution, 2022-007, and the objectives outlined in the resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the great seal of the City of Missoula, in the State of Montana, to be affixed at Missoula, Montana, this 24th day of March, in the year two thousand twenty-two.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Engen".

John Engen
Mayor