

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON

MORRIS COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

No. R-143-14

Date of Adoption: October 20, 2014

Title or Subject: Resolution Declaring Washington Township a Stigma Free Town

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Washington, in County of Morris and the State of New Jersey recognizes that one in five American's have experienced some sort of mental illness according to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA); and

WHEREAS, despite major accomplishments and the progress achieved, New Jersey must still overcome significant challenges before it can reach the goal of making quality mental health care available to all those who need it; and

WHEREAS, mental health problems are more common than cancer and heart disease combined (SAMSHA), and more than half of all Iraq and Afghanistan veterans hospitalized at VA hospitals are treated for mental illness according to the Veteran's Administration, and the stigma associated with mental illness is the biggest roadblock to recovery; and

WHEREAS, The Codey Fund for Mental Health has initiated a statewide campaign requesting towns throughout New Jersey designate their municipality a Stigma Free Town; and

WHEREAS, by declaring Washington Township, a Stigma Free town the Township Committee supports the elimination of stigma associated with mental health illness and will promote public awareness of mental health issues and work to overcome stigma, stereotyping, discrimination and removing any barriers to recovery.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Washington, County of Morris in the State of New Jersey, that Washington Township is a Stigma Free Town.

This resolution shall take effect immediately.

ATTEST:

**TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON**

Nina DiGregorio, Township Clerk

Bill Roehrich, Vice Mayor

I, Nina DiGregorio, Township Clerk, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted at a meeting of the Township Committee held on October 20, 2014.

Nina DiGregorio, Township Clerk

Date