

- WHEREAS,** Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD) is a neurological disorder that can cause significant distress and anxiety; and
- WHEREAS,** OCD is characterized by persistent, unwelcome thoughts that cause high levels of distress and anxiety, known as obsessions, which cause individuals with OCD to demonstrate repetitive actions, or compulsions, to reduce anxiety caused by those thoughts; and
- WHEREAS,** this anxiety can sometimes block normal attention in children and adults, and the compulsions can prevent people from carrying out basic life activities so that OCD can disrupt people's ability to participate in school, work, family and social life; and
- WHEREAS,** OCD is estimated to affect 2-3% of the population without regard to ethnic origins or economic status – which is approximately 35,000-53,000 people in Santa Clara County alone; and
- WHEREAS,** OCD strikes in childhood or adolescence and is not curable, but manageable with proper treatment; however, proper treatment is often lacking for an average of seventeen years since it is commonly not diagnosed in the first nine years of onset; and
- WHEREAS,** individuals with OCD often go long periods of time before getting proper diagnoses and treatment due to a misunderstanding of symptoms caused by the deficiency of knowledge on the part of families, schools, and in rare cases medical establishments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Clara, State of California does hereby proclaim the week of October 12-18th

Obsessive Compulsive Disorder Awareness Week

in Santa Clara County, and encourage the dissemination of information about this widespread and debilitating condition.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this Sixth Day of October, Two Thousand Nine by unanimous vote.

Liz Kniss, President
Board of Supervisors

Donald F. Gage
Supervisor, District One

George M. Shirakawa
Supervisor, District Two

Dave Cortese
Supervisor, District Three

Approved as to Form and Legality

Ken Yeager
Supervisor, District Four



County Clerk

Attest: Maria Marinós
Clerk, Board of Supervisors

Date 10-02-09