

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, one in four adults experience a diagnosable mental illness in a given year; and

WHEREAS, 6% of adults have a serious mental illness; and

WHEREAS, nearly half of all adults will have a diagnosable mental health condition in their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, the median age of onset for mental illness is eleven and the median age of onset for addictive disorder is twenty one; and

WHEREAS, 38%-51% of people with lifetime addictions also have a mental illness; and

WHEREAS, 30% of adults with mental illness reported binge alcohol use; and

WHEREAS, 10% of adults with mental illness reported heavy alcohol use; and

WHEREAS, substance abuse may occur as an unintended consequence of self-medication; and

WHEREAS, ethnic minority populations experience behavioral health needs at disproportionate rates relative to the greater population; and

WHEREAS, on October 2, 2013, the African American Resource Advisory Commission passed a resolution calling for an education and awareness campaign with respect to self-medicating; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The City Manager is directed to pursue strategies to address the problems identified in the African American Resource Advisory Commission's resolution, seek input from community stakeholders, and report the findings and a recommendation back to Council.

ADOPTED: _____, 2013

ATTEST: _____

Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk