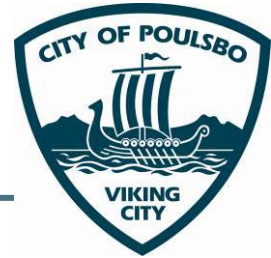


City of Poulsbo

Office of Mayor Rebecca Erickson



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, nearly half of all Americans have a chronic illness, and 60% of those are between the ages of 18 and 64, most of which appear to be healthy individuals; and

WHEREAS, invisible illnesses affects children and adults of all races and ethnicity and ages; and

WHEREAS, living with a chronic illness increases the rate of both depression and suicide, and both risks are increased when one is not believed by others to be ill; and

WHEREAS, regardless of what illness one lives with, she/he often copes with the same feelings of being misunderstood, frustrations and grief; doubt about ones illness by family, colleagues, and even strangers can be devastating; and

WHEREAS, a new awareness by the public that most people who cope with chronic illness and significant pain may appear to be healthy, can greatly improve the quality of life for those who are ill;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Rebecca Erickson, Mayor of Poulsbo, Washington, do hereby proclaim the week of October 3rd – 9th as

Mental Illness Awareness Week

in the City of Poulsbo, and I encourage our citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, and schools to participate in efforts to increase access to much-needed services for those who suffer from mental illness.

Dated this 2nd day of September, 2010

REBECCA ERICKSON, MAYOR