

# RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

**WHEREAS**, Humboldt County Mental Health Deputy Branch Director, Donna Wheeler, is retiring after more than 27 years of service to the Humboldt County community; and

**WHEREAS**, Donna was hired in 1987 as a case manager for those with severe mental illness. During this time she was the first homeless outreach worker, the first mobile response clinician and provided services in the Garberville area; and

**WHEREAS**, Donna served as a Supervising Mental Health Clinician for Mental Health's Children, Youth and Family Services in 1996, as a program manager over Mental Health's Urgent Adult Services, as deputy director for both the Social Services and Mental Health branches, and as the Director of Mental Health; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2002, Donna was granted the Social Worker of the Year Award by the National Association of Social Workers for making a demonstrable difference in program development and practice, contributing to a positive image for the social work profession and taking risks and achieving outstanding results; and

**WHEREAS**, Donna developed the CalSWEC program for Humboldt County Social Workers and was the coordinator of the MSW CalState University Distance Education Program for nine years, training future generations of social workers; and

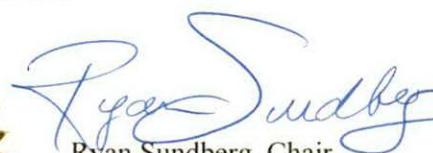
**WHEREAS**, Donna started the Hope Center in 2007, an empowering psycho-social rehabilitative recovery center for individuals with mental health challenges and their families. In this same year, Donna began holding annual Crisis Intervention Team trainings to help police officers and other law enforcement officials identify major mental health disorders and other disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, Donna formed the Mobile Response Team in 2016, which uses a dedicated team of clinicians who travel to local hospitals and evaluate patients on mental health holds, and has helped disencumber emergency rooms and reduce admission to the Crisis Stabilization Unit.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board hereby expresses its gratitude for the contributions she has made to both DHHS and the County of Humboldt and hereby wishes her a long and happy retirement.

September 11, 2018



  
Ryan Sundberg, Chair