

RESOLUTION #R2018-044

A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE NATIONWIDE “STEPPING UP INITIATIVE” TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS IN JAIL.

WHEREAS, Anderson County and its partner agencies recognize that jails have become *de facto* psychiatric facilities nationwide; and

WHEREAS, prevalence rates of serious mental illness in jails are three to six time higher than for the general public; and

WHEREAS, almost three-quarters of adults with serious mental illness in jail have co-occurring substance use disorders; and




WHEREAS, adults with mental illness tend to stay longer in jail and, upon release, are at a higher risk of recidivism than individuals without these disorders; and




WHEREAS, without the appropriate treatment and services, individuals with mental illness continue to cycle through the criminal justice system, often resulting in tragic outcomes for these individuals and their families; and

WHEREAS, Anderson County takes pride in its responsibility to protect and enhance the health, welfare, and safety of its residents in efficient and cost-effective ways.

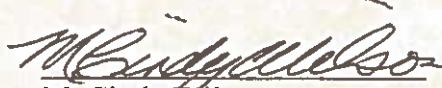
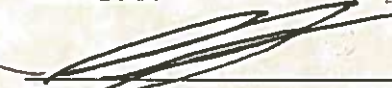

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, Anderson County hereby signs on to the “Call to Action” to safely reduce the number of individuals in our county jail with mental illness and commits to sharing lessons learned with others throughout the State. Use of data-driven decisions, across multiple agencies, will drive innovative strategies to ensure a high-level of care for individuals with mental illnesses and their families.

RESOLVED in a meeting duly assembled this 7th day of August, 2018

 Tommy Dunn, Chairman District Five	 Ray Graham, Vice-Chairman District Three	 Craig Wooten District One
---	--	--

 Gracie S. Floyd District Two	 Tom Allen District Four	 Ken Waters District Six
--	---	--

ATTEST:

 M. Cindy Wilson District Seven	 Rusty Burns County Administrator	 Lacey Croegaer Clerk to Council
--	--	--