

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COUNCIL

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION COUNCIL SERIES NO: C-3054

COUNCIL SPONSOR: GOULD/DAVIS

PROVIDED BY: LEGAL DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE ST. TAMMANY PARISH THROUGH THE OFFICE OF THE PARISH PRESIDENT TO SIGN AND/ OR EXECUTE A COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE PARISH OF ST. TAMMANY AND THE MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF ST. TAMMANY FAMILY THERAPY CLINIC (MHAST).

WHEREAS, the Parish has experienced a steady and alarming spike in suicides over the past six (6) years. According to data collected by the St. Tammany Organization for the Prevention of Suicide, there were 30 suicides which took place in 2004 and there have been 24 suicides in the first six (6) months of 2010; and

WHEREAS, The Mental Health Association of St. Tammany Family Therapy Clinic (MHAST) is qualified to perform mental health counseling services. The mission of MHAST is to provide services to enhance the mental well-being of individuals and families throughout St. Tammany Parish. It is the intention of MHAST to reduce the suffering of citizens of St. Tammany experiencing symptoms of depression, anxiety, family discord, and other issues impacting the quality of life in our community.

WHEREAS, St. Tammany Parish has enacted a Public Health Tax. Funding several initiatives under suicide prevention falls squarely within Public Health Tax proposition. In order to address the lack of mental health resources for suicide risks in the Parish, the St. Tammany Parish Public Health Tax will be used to fund several local nonprofit organizations that focus on improving the mental health and/or provide counseling, therapy and care for mental health patients within St. Tammany Parish. Therefore, the Parish seeks to provide funding to MHAST for providing certain mental health services within St. Tammany Parish to respond to the increasing number of suicides; and

WHEREAS, The Parish proposes to provide funding in the amount of twenty six thousand dollars (\$26,000.00) for a period of eighteen (18) months to MHAST; and

WHEREAS, this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement is authorized pursuant to Article VII Section 14 (C) of the Louisiana State Constitution which authorizes governmental entities to enter into cooperative endeavor agreements.

THE PARISH OF ST. TAMMANY HEREBY RESOLVES that that the Parish President is hereby authorized to sign and/ or execute a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between St. Tammany Parish and Mental Health Association of St. Tammany Family Therapy Clinic (MHAST) in furtherance of the objectives stated above; and

THAT all acts previously taken by the Office of the Parish President in furtherance of the actions or agreements contemplated herein are hereby ratified and approved.

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THIS RESOLUTION HAVING BEEN SUBMITTED TO A VOTE, THE VOTE THEREON WAS AS FOLLOWS:

MOVED FOR ADOPTION BY: _____ SECONDED BY: _____

YEAS: _____

NAYS: _____

ABSTAIN: _____

ABSENT: _____

THIS RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED ON THE 3 DAY OF February, 2011, AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL, A QUORUM OF THE MEMBERS BEING PRESENT AND VOTING.

MARTIN W. GOULD, JR., COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

THERESA L. FORD, COUNCIL CLERK