

## PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION NO. 06-93

Recognizing the Week of October 4-9, 1993  
as Palau Community Health Center and Mental Illness Awareness Week

WHEREAS, a healthy and productive community depends on health care being available to everyone regardless of their ability to pay; and

WHEREAS, the Republic of Palau is fortunate to have a Community Health Center within the Ministry of Health where well qualified health care professionals provide comprehensive services to individuals and families; and

WHEREAS, the Community Health Center has become a key component of the Palau health care system since its inception in 1986; and

WHEREAS, the Community Health Center movement continues to work with the Ministry of Health for improved access to primary health care and solutions to the problems that Palauans have in obtaining health care; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate for the Republic of Palau to recognize and acknowledge the contributions of the Community Health Center to the well-being of our citizens and our nation; and

WHEREAS, a number of citizens of the Republic of Palau suffer from mental illness, such as depression, schizophrenia, personality disorders, anxiety disorders, and other mental disturbances; and

WHEREAS, early recognition and treatment of mental disorders can vastly increase the likelihood of restored health and allow an early end to the suffering caused to Palauan victims of these disorders and to their families; and

WHEREAS, family, friends, and co-workers play a key role in recognizing and reporting the early signs of a mental illness; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the Republic of Palau devotes a week to increase public awareness and understanding of mental health and mental illness;

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the Republic of Palau, I, Kuniwo Nakamura, do hereby proclaim the week of October 4 through October 9, 1993 and the first full week in every month of October hereinafter "Palau Community Health Center and Mental Illness Awareness Week" and urge everyone to recognize the contribution made to our community by the staff, board and volunteers of Palau Community Health Center and direct the Division of Behavioral Health to join forces with community mental health associations around the world to dispel myths and falsehoods commonly associated with mental illness, to increase recognition among Palauans of the early warning signs of mental illness and to

promote local attitudes about mental disorders allowing access to care without fear or shame or the part of patients or their loved ones.

SO PROCLAIMED this 27<sup>th</sup> day of September, 1993, at Koror State, Republic of Palau.

/s/

Kuniwo Nakamura  
President of the Republic of Palau