



**LEWIS AND CLARK
CITY-COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH**

1930 Ninth Avenue
Helena, Montana 59601
Telephone 406-457-8900
Fax 406-457-8990

***A Resolution of the Lewis and Clark City-County Board of Health
in support of recognizing July 2020 as Disability Health Equity Month***

WHEREAS, on July 26, 1990, President George H.W. Bush signed into law the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to ensure the civil rights of people with disabilities. This legislation established a clear and comprehensive national mandate for the elimination of discrimination against individuals with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the ADA has expanded opportunities for Americans with disabilities by reducing barriers and changing perceptions, and increasing full participation in community life; and

WHEREAS, we of the Lewis and Clark County Commission recognize and value the accomplishments and contributions of people with disabilities and the progress that the nation has made since the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act; and

WHEREAS approximately 13.6% of Montanans have some form of disability; and

WHEREAS, disability is a natural part of the human experience that does not diminish an individual's right to live independently, have choice over his or her own life, and fully participate in and contribute to the community through full inclusion; and

WHEREAS, we grow stronger as a community when every person experiences the dignity and freedom of being part of the community; and

WHEREAS, we want to help build a community in which no person is excluded, marginalized, treated unfairly, or prevented from accessing any resource, opportunity, or service;

NOW, THEREFORE, let it be resolved, on the 30-year anniversary of the passage of the ADA, we ask that those in county government strive to develop and maintain a culture of disability inclusion in all of our activities, services, facilities, and systems; and

We ask employers in Lewis and Clark County, as they seek to fill positions, to embrace the richness of our community's diversity by considering the talents of all workers, including those with disabilities; and

We ask planners and property owners to build communities that are universally accessible, enhancing independence and active living; and

We ask everyone to create a better and more inclusive community by celebrating the contributions of individuals with disabilities; and

We ask our community to dedicate itself to ensuring that all residents with disabilities can live full lives, with greater opportunities and independence, through advocacy, support, and technological advancements.

Our mission is to improve and protect the health of all Lewis and Clark County residents



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Adopted by the Lewis and Clark City-County Board of Health on this day, **July 23, 2020**.

BY: _____

Justin Murgel, Chair