

PROCLAMATION for
SELF-INJURY AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, the Kanawha County Commission hereby declares March as Self-Injury Awareness Month in Kanawha County, which coincides with the National Self-Injury Awareness Month, in order to highlight the growing need for concern and awareness about Self-Injury, and its devastating effect on those afflicted with this disorder; and

WHEREAS, self-injury, also called self-harm, self-inflicted violence, or self-mutilation, is a coping mechanism used by an estimated 1% of the US population; and

WHEREAS, self-injury is seldom talked about and often misunderstood, leading to those who self-injure being treated unfairly or insensitively by police, doctors, therapists, and emergency personnel; and

WHEREAS, self-injurers, despite public perceptions, are generally not psychotic and present little danger to others; and

WHEREAS, effective treatments for self-harm do exist, although many professionals may not be aware of them; and

WHEREAS, raising professional and public awareness of the facts about self-injury will help dispel the fears, myths, and taboos that surround the subject and that make it difficult for people who self-injure to obtain effective help.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Kanawha County Commission hereby decrees March as Self-Injury Awareness Month to focus attention on this growing problem and join the national effort and also declare March 1, 2015 as Self-Injury Awareness Day and hereby urge all citizens and professionals to increase their awareness of the truths about Self-Injury, thus allowing people who self-injure to receive fair and sensitive treatment, and be it further resolved that this Proclamation is presented Sarah Fox and the local Self-Injury Awareness group, as they highlight the devastating effects of Self-Injury.



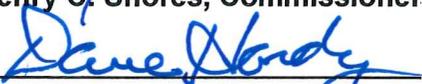
Presented by the
KANAWHA COUNTY COMMISSION
Dated this 19th day of February, 2015



W. Kent Carper, President



Henry C. Shores, Commissioner



Dave Hardy, Commissioner