March 2, 2022

WHEREAS, the Ocean County Health Department joins the New Jersey Department of Health Office of Minority and Multicultural Health in the celebration of Minority and Multicultural Health Month during the month of April; and

WHEREAS, Minority and Multicultural Health Month is a time to raise awareness about health disparities that continue to affect racial and ethnic minority populations and encourage action through health education, early detection, and control of disease complications; and

WHEREAS, this year's theme for National Minority Health Month is, "Give Your Community a Boost!" This year's theme focuses on the continued importance of COVID-19 vaccination, including boosters, as one of the strongest tools we have to end the COVID-19 pandemic that has disproportionately affected communities of color. This theme supplements the CDC recommendations to prevent COVID transmissions, such as physical distancing, use of well-fitting masks, adequate ventilation, and avoidance of crowded indoor spaces; and

WHEREAS, each April, Minority and Multicultural Health is celebrated encouraging all community partners and faith-based organizations to join in promoting minority and multicultural health that promote healthy lifestyles including programs that promote prevention screenings, healthy eating and meal preparation, gardening and exercise; and

WHEREAS, chronic diseases such as obesity, diabetes, high cholesterol, hypertension, and heart problems, which are preventable, affect disproportionately the ethnic and minority populations in the county; simple changes to one's daily routine can transform lives and reduce the risk of chronic diseases and other conditions that often are more common or severe among racial and ethnic minority groups.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ocean County Board of Health hereby proclaims April 2022 as Minority and Multicultural Health Month by promoting healthy lifestyles to all Ocean County residents in realizing that good health should be attained by all residents of all races and socioeconomic status by offering free COVID-19 testing and vaccinations, screenings on blood pressure, osteoporosis, stroke risk assessment, medication management and nutrition education in helping to promote good health for all.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Ocean County Board of Commissioners, and the Ocean County Health Department Faith-Based Initiative.

Name	Bacchione	Hill	Kubiel	Laureigh	Mancini	Scaturro	Singer	Mallon
Ayes							-	
Abstain								
Nays				*				
Absent								

Secretary/Treasurer