

WPA-PPA MANILA DECLARATION
on
THE PROMOTION OF MENTAL HEALTH

WHEREAS, the World Psychiatric Association (WPA), as the recognized global organization of all psychiatrists, is committed to promote the advancement of psychiatry and mental health for all peoples of the world;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Psychiatric Association (PPA), as the premiere psychiatric organization in the Philippines, is committed to the advancement of mental health and psychiatric care globally;

WHEREAS, the WPA and the PPA:

Recognize that mental health is integral to the overall national development of the Philippines;

Recognize that there is no health without mental health and that mental health must be promoted for everyone in all settings – home, school, workplace and the community;

Recognize that persons at risk of mental illness and those suffering from it, by virtue of the nature and/or severity of their illness, have specific vulnerabilities that need special protection and care;

Believe that addressing profound social disadvantage of persons at risk of, and suffering from mental health problems enhances their significant contribution in the civil, political, economic, social and cultural spheres;

Recognize the need for the appropriate integration of mental health services in the community and general health care system following the principles of accessibility, equity, quality, efficiency, and respect for human rights;

Acknowledge the commitment of the Philippine Department of Health to provide a coherent, rational, coordinated and unified response to promote mental health and address mental health problems and concerns at all levels as articulated in its National Mental Health Policy;

Recognize the important role of all sectors and government agencies, local government units, civil society organizations (including the PPA and other professional organizations), families and individuals in the promotion of mental health, prevention of mental illness, and care for persons with mental illness.; and

Recognize the necessity of a body that will provide a coherent and rational direction to help the government address mental health problems, concerns, and efforts through the formulation of a national mental health strategy.

NOW BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE WPA AND THE PPA:

Undertake activities that will advocate, develop, and improve programs and systems for the promotion of mental health and provision of psychiatric care that will permit humane care for the person with mental illness and monitor such in accordance with national legislation and international instruments;

Provide leadership in formulating socioculturally relevant standards and safeguards of the rights of person with mental illness and their service providers;

Embark on programs and strategies that will improve the knowledge and skills of mental health professionals necessary for work in the field of mental health and care for the person with mental illness;

Provide technical support to the Philippine Department of Health in all its endeavours for the cause of mental health; and

Implement strategies that will enhance partnerships within and among stakeholders from government agencies, civil society organizations, industry partners and families to advance the cause of mental health for all as well as the improvement of the quality of life of all those suffering from mental illness.

This declaration is signed on this day, February 6, 2016, at Pasay City, Metro Manila, Philippines.

Dinesh Bhugra, MD, CBE
World Psychiatric Association
President

Ma. Luz. C. Querubin, MD, FPPA
Philippine Psychiatric Association
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