




# Emergence Health Network

El Paso Center for Mental Health/Intellectual Disabilities

For Immediate Release  
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## El Paso Agencies Team Up for “Mental Health Awareness Month” Free Community Rally and Unity Walk

(El Paso, TX May 11, 2018) May is Mental Health Awareness Month and that is why Emergence Health Network together with El Paso County Community Support Services, NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) and several other local agencies are joining forces to help spread awareness about local resources available to help individuals who need behavioral health and/or substance abuse treatment services. “The focus this year is mental health services for our elderly population and those who struggle with substance abuse and mental health issues,” said Kristi Daugherty, CEO Emergence Health Network. “These are two populations in our community that we need to reach out to. If you have a broken leg, you know you have to get help and you know where to go. It’s that type of responsiveness that we need when it comes to getting help for mental illness and especially when you have a co-occurring problem with substance abuse and mental illness.”

Did you know that mental health issues are often intertwined with substance abuse and addiction? Did you know that depression, anxiety, addiction, and other mental health issues are not a normal part of aging, yet one in four older adults experiences some mental disorder? “These numbers are staggering and that is another reason why we need to get the word out about the importance of getting help. It’s like any health condition; treatment can make a difference and these individuals can lead productive lives,” added Daugherty.

### Mental Health Awareness Month Community Rally and Unity Walk

**When:** Saturday May 12, 2018

**Where:** Ascarate Park

6900 Delta Drive, El Paso

**Time:** 9 am – Welcome and speakers

10:00 am – Unity Walk around Ascarate Lake

11:00 am – 12 pm - Vender booths, music, entertainment

