

# Proclamation

Office of the Mayor, City of Toledo

*WHEREAS*, as Mayor of the City of Toledo, it is my privilege and responsibility to recognize those organizations and individuals who have made outstanding contributions that reflect on the well-being and growth of the Toledo community and its citizens; and

*WHEREAS*, The Toledo State Hospital cemeteries serve as a final resting place to 1,994 individuals who were cared for by the historic Toledo State Hospital; and

*WHEREAS*, The Toledo State Hospital Cemetery Reclamation Project seeks to advocate for Toledo State Hospital cemeteries, assuring that all interred there are treated with honor, dignity and respect; and

*WHEREAS*, The Toledo State Hospital Cemetery Reclamation Project works to provide long-term stewardship for the Toledo State Hospital cemeteries and to work with the University of Toledo to restore honor and dignity to those buried there; and


*WHEREAS*, The Toledo State Hospital Cemetery Reclamation Project continues to work to establish a memorial site, promote community awareness of the cemeteries, reduce the stigma surrounding mental health issues through community education, build and maintain a strong relationship with the University of Toledo – which owns the cemetery grounds, and to serve as advocates and give a voice to descendants of those interred; and

*WHEREAS*, The Toledo State Hospital Cemetery Reclamation Project has worked diligently to bring this memorial project to fruition since 2005 under the leadership of the Toledo State Hospital Cemetery Reclamation Project Committee, NAMI of Toledo, The University of Toledo, Northwest Ohio Psychiatric Hospital and with the assistance of many community volunteers;

*THEREFORE*, I Michael P. Bell, Mayor of the City of Toledo, do hereby commend the work of the Toledo State Hospital Cemetery Reclamation Project, committee, partners and volunteers, and do urge all citizens to carry forward their message of honor, dignity and respect for those interred as well as acceptance and compassion for those living with mental health issues.



*IN WITNESS WHEREOF*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official Seal of the City of Toledo to be affixed here to this 15<sup>th</sup> day May 2010.

  
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Michael P. Bell  
Mayor