WHEREAS, it is known that Substance Use Disorders (SUD) are a major contributing factor to four chronic diseases: cardiovascular disease, cancer, chronic pulmonary disease and type 2 diabetes and that those that suffer from SUD are four times more likely to suffer from those four chronic diseases.

WHEREAS, the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) launched the Live Well San Diego to serve as the blueprint for achieving the county’s vision of safe, healthy and thriving communities; and

WHEREAS, on July 13, 2010, and October 9, 2012, the San Diego Board of Supervisors adopted the Building Better Health and Living Safely strategies, the first two components of Live well San Diego encouraging all county residents to participate in programs to build better health and increase safety as individuals, families and communities; and

WHEREAS, SUD are a leading cause of preventable death in the United States among all age groups, contributing to more than 79,000 deaths per year; and

WHEREAS, in 2009, an estimated 23.5 million Americans aged 12 and older needed treatment for SUD’s; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that by 2020, SUD and other mental health disorders will surpass all physical diseases as a major cause of disability worldwide; and

WHEREAS, studies show that every dollar spent on the treatment of SUD saves four dollars in health care costs, and seven dollars in public safety cost; and

WHEREAS, treatment for SUD works and recovery does happen in San Diego County and

WHEREAS, The Fellowship Center has and continues to provided cost effective SUD treatment, rehabilitation and recovery services for over 50 years and has helped tens of thousands individuals and their families recover from SUD; and

WHEREAS, The Fellowship Center has collaborated on many state, county, city and neighborhood efforts to reduce the causes and effects of SUD’s in San Diego County; and

WHEREAS, The Fellowship Center is participating in efforts to integrate its SUD treatment and recovery services into the health care system and collaborate in regional solutions that provide a continuum of services SUD and related health problems for individuals and their families; and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that through these efforts, The Fellowship Center supports the San Diego County Building Better Health and Living Safely Strategies and joins the Live Well San Diego Initiative.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by unanimous vote of the Board of Directors of The Fellowship Center at its regular board meeting December 5, 2013.

Mark Bakkum, President
The Fellowship Center Board of Directors