

IN RECOGNITION OF MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

MAY 2022

- WHEREAS,** GOOD MENTAL HEALTH CARE IS CRITICAL TO THE WELL-BEING OF INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES, COMMUNITIES, SCHOOLS, AND BUSINESSES; AND GOOD HEALTHCARE INCLUDES MENTAL HEALTHCARE; AND
- WHEREAS,** MENTAL ILLNESSES ARE MEDICAL ILLNESSES. MENTAL ILLNESSES ARE NO ONE'S FAULT; THEY ARE COMMON AND THE EARLIER THE TREATMENT, THE BETTER THE OUTCOME. ONE IN FIVE ADULTS WILL EXPERIENCE A MENTAL ILLNESS IN ANY GIVEN YEAR. HALF OF ALL MENTAL HEALTH CONDITIONS BEGIN BY AGE 14, AND 75% BEGIN BY AGE 24; AND
- WHEREAS,** THE DEPTH OF THE MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS AMONG CHILDREN (UNDER AGE 18) IS STAGGERING. THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC SIGNIFICANTLY EXACERBATED MENTAL ILLNESSES IN BOTH CHILDREN AND ADULTS. IN THE FIRST HALF OF 2021, CHILDREN'S HOSPITALS REPORTED A 45% INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF CASES OF SELF-INJURY AND SUICIDE; AND
- WHEREAS,** HALF OF CHILDREN AND ADULTS LIVING WITH MENTAL ILLNESS NEVER RECEIVE LIFE CHANGING TREATMENT. THE "STIGMA" AROUND MENTAL ILLNESS OFTEN PREVENTS PEOPLE FROM SEEKING TREATMENT. RESEARCH SHOWS THAT THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY TO COMBAT STIGMA IS THROUGH PERSONAL CONTACT WITH SOMEONE LIVING WITH A MENTAL ILLNESS; AND
- WHEREAS,** INCREASING AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF MENTAL HEALTH CONDITIONS REDUCE STIGMA AND DISCRIMINATION THAT POSE BARRIERS TO WELL-BEING, AND ALSO PROMOTES APPROPRIATE AND ACCESSIBLE SERVICES FOR ALL PEOPLE WITH MENTAL HEALTH DIAGNOSES; AND
- WHEREAS,** MANY PEOPLE WITH MENTAL ILLNESS MAKE SIGNIFICANT AND VALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR COMMUNITIES, AND ARE ABLE TO LIVE MEANINGFUL LIVES. RACE, GENDER, AGE, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, IDENTITY, LANGUAGE, SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS, VALUES AND BELIEFS ARE AMONG FACTORS WHICH AFFECT HOW MENTAL HEALTH CONDITIONS ARE PERCEIVED AND EXPERIENCED. IT IS ESSENTIAL FOR THESE FACTORS TO BE PART OF THE CONVERSATION ON TREATMENT; AND
- WHEREAS,** NAMI (THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF MENTAL ILLNESS) BROWARD'S MISSION IS TO BRING AWARENESS AND PROGRAMS TO BROWARD COUNTY IN SUPPORT OF A WORLD-CLASS TREATMENT AND RECOVERY SYSTEM FOR PEOPLE WITH MENTAL ILLNESS AND THEIR FAMILIES. NAMI BROWARD WORKS TO PROVIDE SUPPORT, EDUCATION, AND ADVOCACY TO PROMOTE BETTER OUTCOMES FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH MENTAL ILLNESS; AND
- WHEREAS,** NAMI BROWARD COUNTY OBSERVES THE MONTH OF MAY AS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH TO RAISE AWARENESS OF MENTAL HEALTH, TO ENCOURAGE THOSE LIVING WITH MENTAL ILLNESSES TO SEEK HELP, AND TO BE UPLIFTED BY THEIR MESSAGE: *"YOU ARE NOT ALONE"*; NOW
- THEREFORE,** JOSH LEVY, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA, AND THE HOLLYWOOD CITY COMMISSION, HEREBY PROCLAIM MAY 2022 AS:

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

SIGNED THIS 18TH DAY OF
MAY 2022 AT
HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA

MAYOR JOSH LEVY
VICE MAYOR CARYL S. SHUHAM
COMMISSIONER LINDA HILL ANDERSON
COMMISSIONER TRACI L. CALLARI
COMMISSIONER ADAM GRUBER
COMMISSIONER KEVIN D. BIEDERMAN
COMMISSIONER LINDA SHERWOOD