

**IN RECOGNITION OF
MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH**

MAY 2023

- WHEREAS,** GOOD MENTAL HEALTH CARE IS CRITICAL TO THE WELL-BEING OF INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES, COMMUNITIES, SCHOOLS, AND BUSINESSES; AND GOOD HEALTHCARE INCLUDES MENTAL HEALTHCARE. FIFTY PERCENT OF CHILDREN AND ADULTS LIVING WITH MENTAL ILLNESS NEVER RECEIVE LIFE CHANGING TREATMENT DUE TO LACK OF ACCESS TO CARE AND STIGMA; AND
- WHEREAS,** MENTAL ILLNESSES ARE MEDICAL ILLNESSES, 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,** MENTAL ILLNESS IS NOT A CRIME. PEOPLE WITH MENTAL ILLNESS DESERVE HELP, NOT HANDCUFFS. INMATES WITH A MENTAL HEALTH DIAGNOSIS ARE OVER-REPRESENTED IN JAILS AND PRISONS. ABOUT TWO IN FIVE PEOPLE WHO ARE INCARCERATED HAVE A HISTORY OF MENTAL ILLNESS (37% IN STATE AND FEDERAL PRISONS AND 44% HELD IN LOCAL JAILS).
- WHEREAS,** PROGRAMS SUCH AS *CRISIS INTERVENTION TRAINING*, FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS; AND *DIVERSION PROGRAMS* AND *MOBILE CRISIS RESPONSE TEAMS* EFFECTIVELY DECREASE JUSTICE SYSTEM INVOLVEMENT AND INCREASES SAFETY; 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 OBSERVES THE MONTH OF MAY AS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH TO RAISE AWARENESS OF MENTAL HEALTH, TO ENCOURAGE THOSE LIVING WITH MENTAL ILLNESS 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 2023 AS:

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

SIGNED THIS 17TH DAY OF
MAY 2023 AT
HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA

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