

Before the Board of County Commissioners Martin County, Florida

A Proclamation

Declaring May 2021 as Mental Health Awareness Month in Martin County, Florida

- Whereas,** the mental health of every citizen, family, business owner and resident of Martin County is a critical factor in its emotional and economic stability; and
- Whereas,** 44 million American adults, roughly 18%, are living with a mental health illness, and 13% of American youth aged 12-17 are living with major depression; and
- Whereas,** in 2020, COVID-19 depression, anxiety and substance abuse doubled from 2019's finding to two in five adults who are now dealing with mental health issues, roughly translating to 40% of Americans needing mental health services; and
- Whereas,** the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) predicts that the psychiatric impact of a disaster will hit a community approximately 18 months after the disaster; and
- Whereas,** stigma remains the primary obstacle to getting help, and as community leaders we must prepare for an increase in demand on services through education, outreach and ever greater access to care to ensure our community's overall health; and
- Whereas,** it is the duty of each and every one of us to provide continued consistent access to resources to mental health care.

Now, therefore, be it proclaimed by the Martin County Board of County Commissioners that the month of May 2021 is recognized as Mental Health Awareness Month in Martin County to increase public understanding of the importance of mental health, and to strive to be a community who supports mental wellness, including greater access to treatment, increasing educational tools and resources for our citizens, and continually support citizens with mental health opportunities.

Presented this Eleventh Day of May 2021

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

CAROLYN TIMMANN, CLERK OF THE
CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER

STACEY HETHERINGTON, CHAIR

DOUG SMITH, VICE CHAIRMAN

HAROLD E. JENKINS II, COMMISSIONER

SARAH HEARD, COMMISSIONER

EDWARD V. CIAMPI, COMMISSIONER