

# *Proclamation*

## **Mental Health Awareness Month May 2022**

*Whereas*, mental health is key to overall wellness, as mental health influences decision making, behavior and consequently physical health; and

*Whereas*, over half of adults living with mental health illnesses do not seek treatment; and

*Whereas*, a growing number of youth in the United States live with depression, and in fact about 20% of young people ages 12 – 17 have experienced major depression; and

*Whereas*, in 2022, more than 10% of children and adults continue to lack adequate medical insurance coverage for essential mental health services. Florida is ranked 49<sup>th</sup> out of 50 states with access to mental health care; 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 and consistent access to resources to mental health care;

*Whereas*, we the Commissioners of Indian River County strive to be a community who supports mental wellness, including greater access to treatment, increasing educational tools and resources for our citizens, and continually supporting those citizens with mental health opportunities,

*Now, therefore, be it proclaimed by the Board of County Commissioners of Indian River County, Florida*, that the Board recognizes May 2022 as **Mental Health Awareness Month**.

Adopted this 3rd day of May, 2022.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS,  
INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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Peter D. O'Bryan, Chairman

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Joseph H. Earman, Vice Chairman

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Susan Adams

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Joseph E. Flescher

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Laura Moss