

Proclamation

RECOGNIZING JULY AS BEBE MOORE CAMPBELL NATIONAL MINORITY MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

Whereas, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., an international community service organization founded on January 18, 1920, on the campus of Howard University in Washington, D.C., promoting scholarship, service, and sisterhood, and

Whereas, in May 2023, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. and Mental Health America announced a partnership to broaden mental health resources by providing the Mental Health America National Screening and Prevention Program to Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) communities; and

Whereas, mental illness is an essential part of overall health affecting more than 50 million Americans, and it is vital that everyone has equal access to screening treatment, and information providing them choice over their care decisions; and

Whereas, a sense of belonging and inclusion is vital for the well-being and mental health of BIPOC individuals, and community-led spaces such as cultural hubs, are sources of belonging that promote overall mental health and wellness, by providing areas where people of specific cultural backgrounds can come together to provide services and connect with one another; and

Whereas, connection with one's culture and community is key to supporting overall mental health, and individuals who have strong connections to their communities have better mental health outcomes, including lower rates of suicide, violence, and feelings of isolation; and

Whereas, National Minority Health Awareness Month was founded in 2008, in honor of Bebe Moore Campbell, mental health advocate, with the goal of creating mental health awareness and eliminating stigma among diverse communities.

Now, Therefore, be it Proclaimed by the Board of County Commissioners of Indian River County, Florida, that July 2024 be recognized as Bebe Moore Campbell National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month in Indian River County, and call upon its citizens, to increase awareness and understanding of BIPOC mental health, and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all BIPOC people with mental health conditions.

Adopted this 2nd day of July 2024.

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

Susan Adams, Chairman

Joseph E. Flescher, Vice Chairman

Joseph H. Earman

Deryl Loar

Laura Moss