PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, good mental health is a key component in a child's healthy development and Children's Mental Health Week provides the opportunity to focus on this important matter, while celebrating the accomplishments of children and families affected by mental health concerns; and

WHEREAS, according to the United States Department of Health and Human Services, one in five children is diagnosed with a mental health condition: and

WHEREAS, research has shown early identification and appropriate treatment of mental health disorders among children and adolescents provide them better opportunities to lead full and productive lives; and

WHEREAS, children and youth with mental health challenges and their families benefit from access to timely services and supports that are family-drive, youth-guided and culturally appropriate; they also benefit from the integration of behavioral health in primary care, education, and child welfare; and

WHEREAS, it is important that children and adolescents, along with their families and communities, learn about warning signs of mental health disorder and where to obtain necessary assistance and treatment; and

WHEREAS, obtaining a full and accurate diagnosis of a child requires gathering information from diverse sources, including the family, school and others involved with the child; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I ___(Name)_____ , _ (Title) of the _(Name of State or City) , do hereby proclaim May 1-7th as

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK