**Children’s Mental Health Acceptance Week**

***Sample Proclamation***

**WHEREAS** good mental health is a key component in a child’s healthy development and Children’s Mental Health Acceptance Week shines the light on this important matter: and

**WHEREAS** since 2006, we have observed the first week in May as Children’s Mental Health Awareness Week, and it is time to call for action beyond awareness, to be proactive in responding to the needs of our children: and

**WHEREAS** it is important that children and adolescents, along with their families and communities, learn the signs of behavioral health challenges and where to obtain assistance and treatment in their home communities: 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

**WHEREAS** the involvement and partnership of family members in the assessment and treatment of children and youth is essential to positive outcomes: and

**WHEREAS** the National Federation of Families initiated Children’s Mental Health Acceptance Week together with families to focus on the acceptance of children with mental health diagnoses: and

**WHEREAS** children and youth with the most intense needs are frequently underserved and experience inequities in access to support and needed treatment options, which in turn contribute to a social justice issue for youth who experience mental health challenges: and

**WHEREAS** addressing the complex mental health needs of children, youth, and families today is fundamental to the future of our nation, and to [YOUR COMMUNITY OR STATE],

**Therefore, I** (Name) , \_ (Title) of the (Name of State or City), do hereby proclaim **May 7th - 13th, 2023** as **Children’s Mental Health Acceptance Week** and urge citizens and organizations to work toward meeting the mental health needs of every child in (name of city or state) and unite to promote acceptance of children with mental health issues and their families.

SIGNATURE, DATE, AND SEAL AT THE BOTTOM