



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, mental health is defined as emotional and psychological well-being, which allows individuals to work, enjoy satisfying relationships and participate fully in their communities; and

WHEREAS, approximately 25 percent of people experience a diagnosable mental health condition in their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, mental illness accounts for four of the top ten leading causes of disability; and

WHEREAS, studies show that mental health is a significant component of physical health; and

WHEREAS, studies have shown that every dollar invested in evidence-based treatment yields \$2 to \$10 in savings from lost productivity, as well as health, criminal justice and other costs; and

WHEREAS, when offered adequate services, wellness and recovery are possible for all who live with mental illness; and

WHEREAS, mental health awareness, prevention and education encourage individuals to seek professional and/or social support; and

WHEREAS, great strides have been made in our State to raise awareness about the importance of mental health and to advance treatment opportunities for individuals with mental illness; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's community-based mental health system of care and peer support is built of strong and dedicated organizations committed to helping individuals with mental illness receive necessary treatment and achieve sustained recovery; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's Children's System of Care (CSOC) under the Department of Children and Families (DCF) provides an array of services and supports for children and youth with behavioral health challenges, substance use disorders, as well as intellectual and developmental disabilities designed to help children and youth feel healthier and happier while living in their communities in the least restrictive environment; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's State-operated psychiatric hospital system provides consumer-centered, recovery-oriented treatment geared toward the transition back to successful community living; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey is advancing its goals to provide those with mental illness independent, meaningful and productive lives in the community;

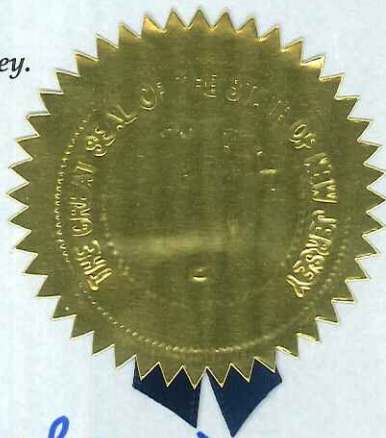
NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRIS CHRISTIE, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim

MAY 2017

AS


MENTAL HEALTH MONTH

in New Jersey.



GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this twenty-sixth day of April in the year two thousand seventeen, the two hundred forty-first year of the Independence of the United States.


Lt. GOVERNOR


GOVERNOR