

WHEREAS, the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Broward's Mission is to enhance awareness and provide programs in Broward County that support a world-class system for the treatment and recovery of individuals facing mental health challenges; and

WHEREAS, NAMI Broward delivers support, education, and advocacy to nurture better understanding, coping strategies, and positive outcomes for people and their families navigating the complexities of mental health; and

WHEREAS, mental health conditions are treatable health concerns that are widespread and manageable; and

WHEREAS, comprehensive healthcare encompasses mental healthcare, which must be accessible to all individuals regardless of race, gender, age, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, values, and cultural beliefs; and

WHEREAS, it is vital that these factors are integrated into treatment, allowing the community to become a bastion of support; and

WHEREAS, the breadth of the mental health crisis affecting both children and adults is profound with half of all mental health conditions beginning by age 14 and one in five adults encountering a mental health challenge in any given year; and

WHEREAS, prompt intervention leads to more favorable outcomes; however, half of the children and adults living with mental health challenges never receive transformative treatment due to barriers to care and stigma. The resilience and recovery journey of individuals diagnosed with a mental health condition should be celebrated rather than stigmatized; and

WHEREAS, mental health challenges are not criminal issues, nonetheless, individuals with mental health diagnoses are disproportionately represented in jails and prisons. The implementation of Crisis Intervention Training for law enforcement officers, Diversion Programs, and Mobile Crisis Response Teams helps effectively reduce involvement in the justice system and enhance safety; and

WHEREAS, individuals experiencing mental health challenges are capable of leading meaningful lives and contributing significantly to society.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Commission of the City of Coconut Creek, Florida, hereby proclaims May 2024 as

“MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH”

to promote mental health awareness and inspire those living with mental health challenges to seek support.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto
set our hands and caused the seal of the
City of Coconut Creek to be affixed
this 25th day of April 2024.**