



County Commissioners of Charles County

PROCLAMATION 2025-32

National Mental Health Awareness Month and Children's Mental Health Awareness Week

WHEREAS, National Mental Health Awareness Month and Children's Mental Health Awareness Week is annually observed in May to provide vital opportunities to combat stigma, increase awareness, promote acceptance and encourage open conversations around mental health in our children and communities; and

WHEREAS, mental health and substance use conditions often remain invisible, yet profoundly impact children, youth, and families; and

WHEREAS, mental health illness can affect anyone and can develop at any time and its effect spreads well beyond the individual to the family, friends, coworkers and the community; and

WHEREAS, the importance of early identification, prevention, and treatment of mental health conditions especially in children cannot be overemphasized, and like all adults, children should be seen, acknowledged, and supported in navigating their emotional well-being; and

WHEREAS, we must fight the stigmas surrounding mental health illness and empower those affected by emotional distress and their loved ones to seek the care and treatment they need to enjoy the blessings of a fulfilling and productive life; and

WHEREAS, this year's National Mental Health Awareness Month theme, "Turn Awareness into Action," emphasizes the importance of not only raising awareness about mental health issues but also taking concrete steps to improve mental well-being and promote positive change; and

WHEREAS, it is crucial to collaborate to turn knowledge into action by supporting mental health initiatives, advocating for policies, and providing resources to those in need by raising awareness of mental health challenges, lifting our struggling friends, family members, neighbors in Charles County.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim May 2025 as **National Mental Health Awareness Month** and May 4-10, 2025 as **Children's Mental Health Awareness Week** in Charles County and urge all residents take the time to acknowledge and recognize those who may be suffering from mental health illness with humanity and compassion and support them in seeking help for the promise of recovery and healing.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

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Attest:

Carol A. DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners

