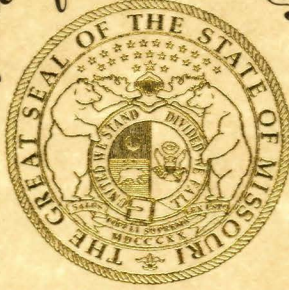


Office of the Governor



State of Missouri

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, healthy children and youth are fundamental to the future of Missouri; and

WHEREAS, mental health and development is a vital component of proper growth and development for all children; and

WHEREAS, mental health treatment and support is critical to the health and well-being of Missouri citizens; and

WHEREAS, half of all mental illnesses begin by the age of 14; and

WHEREAS, high school students who experience mental illness are more than twice as likely to drop out of school as their peers; and

WHEREAS, suicide is the second leading cause of death in youth ages ten to fourteen; and

WHEREAS, the Missouri Department of Mental Health, NAMI Missouri, and partner organizations are committed to improving children's mental health awareness, services, and supports.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael L. Parson, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby proclaim May 5-11, 2024, to be

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

in Missouri.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, this 6th day of May, 2024.



Michael L. Parson

Michael L. Parson
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Jay Ashcroft
SECRETARY OF STATE